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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

INCREASE OF ARMY AND NAVY.

AMONG the first permanent modifications of national policy resulting from the war, the increase of the military and naval establishment must be recorded. Navy-building has received by far the larger increment at the hands of Congress, but it has also been made possible for the President in time of war to have at his command a regular army more than twice as large as heretofore maintained, and a volunteer army to supplement it as well.

The story of the navy's increase is the shorter but the more striking, in that it has not only been temporarily augmented for the war, but has become the object of unprecedented appropriations for permanent upbuilding. A large part of the \$50,000,000 first appropriated by Congress for purposes of national defense has been used to purchase additional cruisers and gunboats, yachts for despatch-boats, tugs for a patrol fleet, and to convert chartered merchant-vessels into auxiliary cruisers. To man a number of these ships, the naval militia was called upon through the governors of several States. The naval militia is organized specifically for coast defense in seventeen States, and comprises a force of about 3,800 men. Beyond emergency measures a permanent increase of the navy is provided for by the passage of the naval appropriation bill for the coming fiscal year. Congress has fixed the appropriation at \$57,000,000—more than double the appropriation for the current year, which had been the largest since we began the construction of our modern navy. It authorizes the construction of three new seagoing battle-ships, each of 11,000 tons displacement, carrying the heaviest armor and most powerful armament, to cost, exclusive of armor and armament, \$3,000,000 each; four coast-defense monitors, to cost \$1,250,000 each; sixteen torpedo-boat destroyers, and twelve torpedo-boats, to cost \$6,900,000, and one gunboat for the Great Lakes, to cost \$260,000. It also authorizes the construction of dry-docks to cost \$850,000 each, at Portsmouth, Boston,

League Island, and Mare Island and a steel, floating dock at Algiers, La. It provides for 1,500 additional marines, 60 gunnery sergeants, and 40 corporals.

New legislation regarding the army is more complicated, Congress having decided against permanently enlarging the regular army, but having provided means of increase in time of war which seem to have been confusing to the public.

"Upon a declaration of war by Congress, or a declaration of Congress that war exists," the Hull army reorganization law authorizes the twenty-five regiments of the infantry arm of the service to be recruited up to a total of 31,800 enlisted men. It authorizes the recruiting of the ten regiments of the cavalry arm of the service to a total of 12,000 enlisted men, the seven regiments of the artillery arm of the service to 16,457 men, and the engineer battalion of five companies up to 752 enlisted men, including two non-commissioned officers, which makes a total for these arms of the service, when at a maximum strength, of 61,010. But it is specifically provided that the additional force of the regular army, authorized for war purposes, shall be promptly discharged at the close of hostilities, the permanent increase of the present "peace footing" being limited to twenty-five majors.

These provisions contemplate a three-battalion formation of the regular army, and it is provided that, when the President shall call for volunteers or militia, he is authorized to accept quotas of troops from the various States and Territories as organized therein, in number of men and formation conforming to the regular army organization.

A separate law (known as the Hull volunteer army bill) has been enacted "to provide for temporarily increasing the military establishment of the United States, in time of war, and for other purposes." Under the terms of this law the President issued his call for 125,000 volunteers. It declares that all able-bodied male citizens and persons of foreign birth who have declared their intention to become citizens, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, constitute the national forces and shall be liable to perform military duty in the service of the United States. The organized and active land forces of the United States shall consist of the army of the United States and of the militia of the several States when called into the service of the United States, provided that in time of war the army of the United States shall consist of two branches, the regular army, the permanent military establishment, and the volunteer army, to be maintained only during the existence of war or while war is imminent.

The volunteer army is to be raised and organized "only after Congress has or shall have authorized the President to raise such a force or to call into actual service the militia of the several States." From this wording of the law it will be seen that a volunteer army may be raised without calling upon the state militia, if, in the judgment of Congress, occasion demands it.

The volunteer army is to be mustered out when the object for which it is organized has been attained, and enlistments are limited to two years. In service this army, and the state militia when called upon, are subject to the laws of the regular army.

When the members of any company, troop, battery, battalion, or regiment of the organized militia of any State shall enlist in the volunteer army in a body, their own officers may be appointed by the governors of the States and Territories, and will become officers of corresponding grades in the same organization when received as part of the volunteer army. It is over the point of

preserving local organization, thus covered by the law, that trouble has arisen in several States under the present call for volunteers. The general officers of the volunteer army are to be selected and commissioned by the President, who is empowered to appoint a major-general for each army corps and division and a brigadier-general for each brigade. Under this provision, President McKinley made his list of appointments May 4.

The law further provides for the organization of a limited number of companies, troops, battalions, or regiments possessing special qualifications, under which "rough riders," etc., are being organized.

Section 5 of this law reads:

"That when it becomes necessary to raise a volunteer army the President shall issue his proclamation, stating the number of men desired, within such limits as may be fixed by law, and the Secretary of War shall prescribe such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the terms of the act, which may in his judgment be necessary for the purpose of examining, organizing, and receiving into service the men called for; provided that all men received into service in the volunteer army shall, as far as practicable, be taken from the several States and Territories and the District of Columbia in proportion to their population."

An examination of existing law shows that under the Constitution of the United States (art. 1, section 8) Congress has power to provide for calling forth, organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for "governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress." Congress prescribes the President's power over the state militia in Revised Statutes, section 1,642, which reads:

"Whenever the United States are invaded, or in imminent danger of invasion from any foreign nation or Indian tribe, or of rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States, it shall be lawful for the President to call forth such number of militia of the State or States, most convenient to the place of danger, or scene of action, as he may deem necessary to repel such invasion, or to suppress such rebellion, and to issue his orders for that purpose to such officers of the militia as he may think proper."

The Spanish-American war did not constitute an "invasion" in

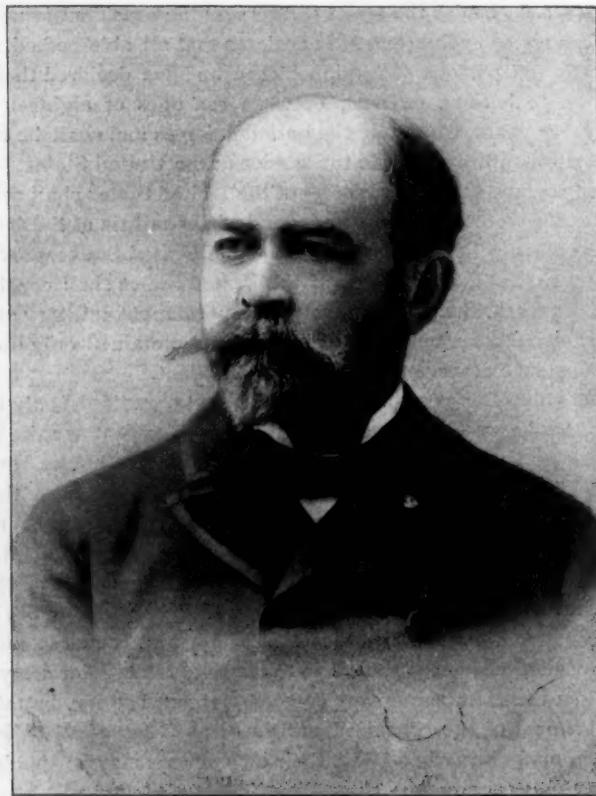
the legal sense. But Congress had exercised its inherent war-making power in directing the President to use the land and naval forces of the United States to force Spain to comply with our demands. A state of war followed. And under the congressional legislation (described above) providing for raising a volunteer army in time of war, the President issued his call. Under that call the Secretary of War asked the governors to furnish quotas of volunteers enlisting from the state organizations, to be mobilized at fixed points and then mustered into service by regular army officers.

Navy to Forestall European Coalition.—"It is improbable that Great Britain and the United States will ever become involved in war with each other. The proposed American navy would probably never be used against the fleets of the British Empire. But there has been talk of European action against the United States, in which possibly all the great nations of the continent would participate. It is against such a contingency that the American people should provide. It can not be done without building a more powerful navy than that of France.

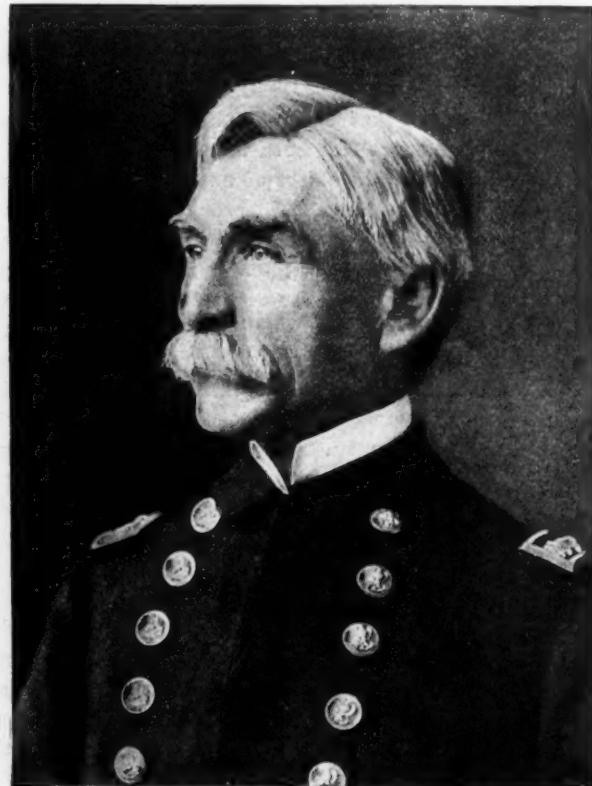
"With some countries this would be impracticable, because of lack of money. But the United States is so rich that it could build a hundred battle-ships and an aggregate of two hundred cruisers, gunboats, and harbor-defense boats without placing a heavy burden of taxation on the people. To build these ships, together with a correspondingly great fleet of torpedo-boats and torpedo-boat destroyers, would not cost more than \$600,000,000. That is a large sum of money, but distributed over a period of ten years, it would involve an expenditure of only \$60,000,000 per year. This would not involve a burdensome increase in taxation.

"A fleet of this size added to the ships now in commission or under construction would make the United States stronger on the seas than Great Britain is to-day. It would put an end to all talk about a European coalition against this country. Great Britain would be our friend, and the two powers together could rule the world. Refrain from building such a navy, and the United States may be compelled to sue for peace at the feet of the allied powers of the continent."—*The Republican (Sil. Rep.), Denver.*

Fifteen Years of Navy-Building.—"In a debate on the Naval Appropriation bill] Mr. Boutelle called attention to the fact that fifteen years ago our flag was not flying on a single modern ship



COMMODORE GEORGE C. REMEY,
Commanding the Naval Base at Key West.



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COMMODORE J. CRITTENDEN WATSON,
Commanding the Blockading Division of the Atlantic Squadron.

of war. We could not make a ton of armor in this country. A wonderful progress, however, has been made in navy-building in this brief period. What we have done in fifteen years required a half-century for its accomplishment by some of the older European powers. In the course of his speech Mr. Boutelle said:

"During that time [fifteen years] we have increased the authorization of vessels of the new navy, including those in the present bill, by 258,014 tons.

"The appropriations for the increase of the navy during that period, including the present bill, have been \$151,117,597.

"The increase of the naval force of enlisted men during the fifteen years has been 5,500 men.

"When we come to the increase of the armament of the navy in fifteen years, starting from a condition where we had not a single modern gun afloat, we have put afloat and authorized, including the provisions of this present bill, a navy capable of throwing at every full discharge of its guns 122,260 pounds of metal.

"The number of ships shows a similar proportion. We have built in fifteen years' time 114 vessels of all classes.

"Of torpedo-boats and destroyers there have been sixty-three authorized."

"This splendid showing of fifteen years of naval construction, together with the superb action of our cruisers in the battle in Manila bay, can not fail to give a great stimulus to the work of building up a navy that shall be commensurate with our commercial interests and that shall fittingly represent our national dignity and power."—*The Times-Herald (McKin Ind.), Chicago.*

Army Should be Increased as Well as Navy.—"The fact is, the necessity for a permanently larger regular army is just as great as that for a permanently larger navy. This nation is extending itself. It has become a factor in the affairs of the world. Each State has to keep its own house in order and to protect its own interests against elements that hold such interests and that hold all law in light estimate. Our coast defenses need to be increased and the expensive guns required for them need to be manned permanently by trained forces. A larger national army is required, not merely for war with Spain, for it was required before that war became probable, and it will be required more and more after that war is over.

"So obvious is this that the next Congress should be chosen with reference to the election of men to it who will be pledged, not merely to increase our regular navy, but to raise and maintain our regular army at such figures as our necessities and interests require and as our increasing national duties and international complications may also require. There should be no politics drawn on such a proposition. But if politics is drawn on

it, then the party for an adequate army, as opposed to the party which would place law at the mercy of the enemies of law and the protection of property and rights at the mercy of those who, at bottom, are flatly hostile to both, should receive the united support of sane, orderly, and thoughtful men.

"Meanwhile, volunteering should be encouraged among those to whom it is an object in itself—and they are legion—while those to whom other and nearer duties are mandatory should act on their conscience and on their interest as loyal citizens. The States should maintain their organizations, and the men of the National Guard should take the stand that their duties to their States and to their organizations is one which the general Government has neither the right nor the desire to ask them to neglect."—*The Eagle (Ind. Dem.), Brooklyn.*

Improve the National Guard; Not Increase the Army.—"It will be wise for the Government to put a premium upon efficiency in the National Guard, or other militia, and to give it more attention. There is no reason why every State in the Union should not have as good a military organization as the National Guard of Pennsylvania, or why Pennsylvania, in the future, should not have a better one than in the past. Better far to secure this result by offering inducements to bring it about than to make a material increase in the standing army.

"It has often been pointed out by *The Dispatch* that one chief measure of the industrial superiority of this country is its freedom from the burden of maintaining a large military establishment. The country needs a first-class navy, and that it will soon have. It should maintain it, not at the highest point in numbers, but at the highest grade of efficiency. It needs a standing army that will form the nucleus around which the volunteer forces may be concentrated. It needs trained officers and it needs heavy artillerymen, skilled in the use of its coast-defense guns. With these things the country may go ahead winning new victories in the peaceful fields of industry, commerce, and the arts, confident in its ability to repel invasions and to protect the proper interests of its citizens abroad."—*The Dispatch (Ind. Rep.), Pittsburg.*

SPAIN'S TROUBLES AT HOME.

WHILE Spain is attempting to carry on war with the United States, she is suffering serious troubles at home. Even the reports which pass government censorship show that martial law has been resorted to in order to suppress riots in many parts of the kingdom, and the cabinet is in process of reconstruction because of differences concerning the Government's war policy.

The most notable statement regarding the Spanish situation



BRIG.-GEN. WILLIAM M. GRAHAM,
Commanding the Department of the South.



MAJOR-GEN. WESLEY MERRITT,
Who may be appointed Military Governor of the Philippines.

appeared in the form of an interview with Premier Sagasta, published simultaneously in the New York *Journal* and the London *Morning Post*, May 10. In it, Sagasta is represented as characterizing the defeat at Manila as an unequal combat, a disaster in which nothing occurred to wound Spanish pride, discussion of the causes of the catastrophe being beside the question. "The truth is," he is reported to have said, "that we were too few, that we were overwhelmed by the great superiority of the enemy's forces, and by the fortunes of war, which unhappily went against us." The reported interview continues:

"At the present juncture there is no time to lose in useless debate. We must reserve all our strength, all our energy, for tomorrow.

"Our first duty is to unite in order to vanquish our foes, or at least to defend ourselves valiantly, and to uphold the honor of Spain. It is necessary thereto that the Government should be supported by all, without considerations of party, exclusively on patriotic grounds.

"Parliament, too, must grant the Government the resources required for war. Now this is precisely what grieves me. I believed that the first cannon-shot by the United States against our troops would be the signal for the union and fraternity of all Spaniards, as all were equally affected by the assault of the United States. I was mistaken. Certain parliamentary groups are in disagreement with the Government, and have the pretension to make conditions in return for their support. They thus paralyze our efforts and diminish our strength, which is indispensable to a government in such a difficult time. Some are ceaselessly intriguing; others are full of reticence, and all is done in the name of the fatherland. What derision!

"Attempts have even been made to assail the monarchy without the authors appearing to imagine for a moment that this is simply weakening the country, lowering the prestige of the flag which guides our soldiers, and that it tends to discourage our troops and encourage our enemies. When our political adversaries attack the Government, when they criticize the acts of the Crown while war is proceeding, they are committing a crime for which some day, perhaps, they may have to answer before the country.

"On principle I am opposed to war, which is always disastrous, even to the victorious nation. God is my witness that I did not wish for a rupture with the United States. I realized perfectly that we were exhausted by the war which we have been waging so long, and that we needed a rest. On the contrary, I desired a peaceful solution which would have protected our interests, the honor of the country, and our rights of sovereignty. The Government did everything to avoid this conflict, more, even than it should have done. Our adversaries began to treat us with contempt, and war became inevitable. We were compelled to accept it with all the consequences, whatever they may be.

"The situation is very simple, and unfortunately can not be concealed. Spain is desolated and ruined by internal troubles. The United States prosper and increase their riches and their strength daily. There is no use in saying that this state of affairs is the fault of the present system of government. Would a Spanish republic have prevented the development of the United States? I do not think so. A republic would have done no better for Spain, and it might have done worse.

"The United States have coveted Cuba for a long time: first, because it is an excellent strategic point, and, second, so as to be masters of the interoceanic trade. To attain their object they have hesitated literally at nothing. They knew the state of our finances and took advantage of it to attack us, after having assisted the Cuban insurrection, with the view of completing our ruin and with a cut-and-dried plan of declaring war as soon as they considered our exhaustion sufficiently advanced. Now that the struggle has begun, that the first cannon-shots have been fired, the Americans continue the same tactics. Instead of openly making war, they encourage in every way the troubles in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines. If they could they would stir up insurrection in the peninsula itself.

"I accepted power under particularly difficult circumstances, but I accept all its responsibilities. At the time of the Government's formation it was engaged, in spite of itself, in an extremely delicate and perilous adventure. It would have been cowardice in these conditions not to have assumed office with a firm hope that, in spite of everything, our honor would be kept

stainless, and that we would triumph because on our side we had loyalty, patriotism, and right. . . . The future is in the hands of God, and none can foresee it."

"Poor Spain."—"The total failure of the Spanish land and naval forces at Manila to make any effective preparations to repel our attack, or to do any damage to our fleet in the resistance to the attack, can not be explained otherwise than as a manifestation of an evil even more deep-seated than that to which Premier Sagasta refers. It can be understood only on the supposition that everything in Spanish government has been undermined by the all-pervading venality and official corruption which were at the bottom both of Spanish misrule in Cuba and of the utter failure of her successive captains-general to make any headway in their military operations against the insurgents.

"Another and even more familiar side of Spanish weakness is presented by her financial condition. With a sadly depreciated paper currency and her bonds standing disastrously below par, she has gone on year after year, piling up higher and higher her burden of public debt in the desperate hope of preserving the supposed prestige of her dominion in Cuba. To raise money she has been compelled to give pledges of a humiliating character, mortgaging the Cuban revenues and other specific sources of income. She has been looked upon as something very like bankrupt, for years.

"It was too much to expect that we should allow disorder and starvation and devastation indefinitely, merely in order that an island off our shore should continue in possession of a country thousands of miles away, scarcely able to keep down its own internal dissensions, with an administration a byword for corruption and incompetence, and with a financial condition which placed it on the verge of bankruptcy. How much these evils of Spain have been aggravated by the very possession of her distant dependencies, imposing tasks on her which she was unfit to perform, and giving extraordinary opportunities for official corruption, no one can say. But it will be the hope of all the world that the nation will be the better for its losses, and will enter upon a new and upward course as a result of the experiences of this war."

—*The News, Baltimore.*

Spain without Government.—"A government which can not enforce justice and honesty during peace can not carry on war efficiently. Nothing must be more painfully evident to Spain's friends in Europe than her lack of civil and military leaders. The Spaniards are brave and patriotic, but personal qualities of the rank and file do not insure victory. The readiness of the Spanish sailors off Manila to die for their country was no compensation for the incompetence of Admiral Montejo and the governor-general of the Philippines. The Spanish recruits in Cuba suffered privations and faced death without complaint, but the impotence of the Spanish generals rendered all their sacrifices useless. Spain may still be formidable in guerilla warfare, but where strategy and ingenuity are needed her military and naval commanders reveal hopeless inferiority.

"In civil government the same incapacity paralyzes the nation. The Madrid correspondents all agree that matters are steadily growing worse. The parties in the Cortes are all equally at sea. The Sagasta cabinet keenly realizes that it is in no position to cope with the difficulties of the situation, and it would have fallen before this had any other political group possessed sufficient confidence and strength to accept the responsibilities of office. Sagasta assumed power with the hope of averting war by conciliation and concession. His is not and never was meant to be a war cabinet. He doubtless foresaw the disasters of a conflict, but the temper of the nation did not permit him, after the failure of autonomy, to surrender Cuba without a struggle. Now he finds himself without resources and without hope. He would gladly resign, but the opposition hesitates to give him the push for which he is secretly praying.

"Moret's appeal the other day to the Cortes, to 'advise' the Government and outline a war policy, has truthfully been characterized as a confession of impotence. As the Conservative leader justly said, it signified a desire to convert the Cortes into a convention and the cabinet into a mere committee of safety. The pathetic appeal was doomed to failure and scorn. Sagasta may fall any day, but neither the Conservatives, the Carlists, nor the Republicans are ready to take the reins into their hands. Another republic would meet with the fate which overtook the Casterla experiment. It would produce a speedy reaction in favor of

a despotism. As for Don Carlos, he is too shrewd to seek power at this juncture, for he knows he could not save Spain. His opportunity may come later.

"Thus Spain is without a responsible government and without the elements requisite for the formation of one."—*The Evening Post, Chicago.*

THE PRICE OF WHEAT.

IN the New York market last week (Monday, May 9) wheat was quoted at \$1.91 per bushel, having risen more than 30 cents in a single day. The price fell, with violent fluctuations, to \$1.60 within two days after, but the high figure of Monday occasioned much comment in the press. Conflicting explanations of the wheat situation are offered by papers usually well informed on commercial matters—explanations which differ widely not only regarding the causes of present conditions, but even in the figures they give for previous price records. Natural causes, the war, and speculative influences, particularly the cornering of the market by Mr. Leiter, of Chicago, are factors to which different degrees of importance are attached. There is, however, general agreement that the high prices, no matter how caused, constitute a serious source of trouble to Spain, Italy, and other foreign nations just at present, whereas the people of the United States as producers are benefited.

Record-Breaking Prices.—"The price reached last week [Friday, May 6] for the nearest option of wheat, namely, \$1.60 at New York, is the highest reached since 1878, when it touched \$1.85; in June, 1882, \$1.50 $\frac{1}{4}$ was the highest closing price recorded. In August, 1881, and every subsequent month until July, 1882, the price ran over \$1.44, tho it fell from time to time, as low as \$1.29 $\frac{1}{2}$ in March, 1882, \$1.30 $\frac{1}{4}$ in February, and \$1.38 in December, 1891. Prior to that year the price had touched \$1.59 in 1880, and \$1.56 in 1879, but we go back to 1873 before finding sales at \$2 per bushel or over.

"Up to last Friday it was said that the movement of the wheat market was without precedent, and the movements Saturday and yesterday [Monday, May 9] went far beyond anything that was indicated up to Friday. May wheat rose 30 cents yesterday and went up 23 cents at a single jump. There was a reaction, but there never was anything like this in the history of the wheat market. July wheat advanced 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents yesterday, reaching \$1.28 $\frac{1}{2}$. In previous years there have been remarkable advances in wheat, but they have been purely speculative, the price of a certain option being worked up, by manipulation and corners, out of all proportion to the value of cash wheat, and the exporters and millers drawing out till prices should become normal again. But this whole season the cash wheat has commanded better figures than the futures. The advance of prices here, far beyond the remissions of duty in Europe, has reminded thoughtful foreigners of the dependence of the Old World upon the New for its bread; and while the present year is exceptional on account of the extent of the European shortage, yet under normal conditions Europe must buy wheat of us or go hungry, and there is sound reason in the observations made abroad that any European intervention against us could be defeated by an embargo on our wheat exports for thirty days."—*The Journal of Commerce, New York.*

Produce-Exchange Records.—" \$1.25 was the highest price in April, 1891, or from that month until this week; \$1.20 was the highest in October, 1888, or from that time until April, 1891, and in 1883 and nine previous years the highest prices ranged from \$1.24 to 1.67 in 1877, but nothing higher has been seen since the year of panic, 1873. These are, of course, prices for cash wheat in regular sales; the Produce Exchange officially reported \$1.26 as the top price for the May option April 21, 1894, and \$1.30 $\frac{1}{4}$ for wheat delivered; in October, 1888, with \$1.21 quoted afloat and \$1.18 $\frac{1}{2}$ for the October option, \$1.21 was the highest for wheat in elevator. In 1880 No. 2 Red was the quality quoted highest, \$1.58 $\frac{1}{4}$ January 2; in 1879 the same quality, at \$1.60 $\frac{1}{4}$ December 29, and in 1878 the same quality at \$1.47 January 3. In 1877 No. 2 Red was at the highest point September 21, \$1.60, but No. 2 Chicago Spring sold at \$1.67 June 7, and No. 2 Milwaukee, for some early months the active grade in the market, sold at \$2 April 28. Nor has the market been remarkable at New York

alone. While the prices here ranged in the years 1868 to 1883 for regular sales between \$1.25 as the highest point in one year and \$1.67 in another, the Produce Exchange records make the highest quotation at Chicago in all these years lower than the price, \$1.78, at which sales were made on Monday there."—*The Tribune, New York.*

Apprehended Bread Famine.—"The primary cause of the advance in wheat is the apprehended bread famine in Europe. Evidence of this is found in the fact that France, a great wheat-growing country, has suspended until July 1 the duty of 36 cents a bushel. The abrogation of this important source of revenue means much as to the limited supply of wheat available. Italy has also suspended its duty, and Spain has prohibited the export of wheat, and now admits breadstuffs free. Austria-Hungary is agitating the repeal of its tax, and Russia has forbidden the export of grain. . . . The war with Spain bears only a vague relation to the advance in wheat. The small crops abroad can not be ascribed to that or the bountiful crops in this country. The advance is due to the immutable law of supply and demand.

"American farmers—and the Leiters as well—will profit largely by the advance. With favorable conditions we will have the largest wheat crop in America this year ever known, as the advance in prices stimulated the planting of a larger area. From the farmers, indirectly, the rising market will boom every channel of commercial and industrial activity. When the farmers are in funds the whole country prospers.

"Some conception of the extent to which the American farmers have profited by the foreign-crop failure may be gained by an inspection of the results of the special wheat investigation instituted by the agricultural department at the close of the harvest of 1897, which have just been published in tabulated form. It is learned from this investigation that the total production of wheat for the year was 530,149,168 bushels, and the average price in all the States for the year was 80.8 cents. The area under wheat cultivation was 39,465,066 acres, the average yield per acre being 12.7 bushels. The value of the total wheat production is placed at \$428,547,121. The total production of corn was 1,902,967,933 bushels, valued at \$501,072,952. The wheat crop of 530,000,000 bushels last year may be increased this year fifty or a hundred millions, and then if prices are maintained the farmers, and through them all the people, may have a year of unbounded prosperity."—*The Post, Pittsburg.*

Shortage of Cash Stocks.—"The exact situation in this country may be easily understood. When the crop of 1897 commenced to come forward, it was estimated that the exports would amount to about 175,000,000 bushels without leaving a shortage in the domestic market. Later the estimates of the size of the crop were enlarged, giving about 200,000,000 bushels for shipping. The Canadian yield was placed at about 55,000,000 bushels. That grain readily finds its way into this country for exportation, and probably a fair proportion of the whole Canadian crop is included in the shipments of American wheat and flour from New York during the last ten months. Admitting that the American supply was about 200,000,000, the whole stock offered to foreigners from this continent was about 255,000,000 bushels. It is to be borne in mind that the quantity furnished by the United States was expected to be the maximum which could be shipped hence without squeezing the domestic consumer. But the actual exports from all ports on the continent so far amount to very nearly 235,000,000 bushels. This would give us a reserve stock for shipment of about 20,000,000 bushels. As a matter of fact, the whole of the visible now amounts to about 35,000,000 bushels. Making allowance for the calling out of old stocks, the most cursory examination of the situation reveals a sharp crisis in the market. Two or three months must intervene before the new grain comes to the elevators or into millers' hands."—*The Journal, Providence.*

Misleading Wheat Estimates.—"On the basis of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat per capita and a population a little under 74,000,000 the requirements of the United States for food in the crop year which will end June 30 would be 343,756,000 bushels. In addition there were required for seed 54,000,000 bushels, which makes a total for domestic use of 397,756,000 bushels. In ten months and one week there have been exported in round numbers 84,000,000 bushels, which accounts for 581,000,000. There were remaining in stock when the crop year began approximately 30,000,000 bushels. Adding this to the government estimate of a yield of

530,000,000 bushels, we find that the total available supply, according to official calculation, has been only 560,000,000 bushels, or 21,000,000 bushels less than the proved distribution, without counting the 23,000,000 bushels now held at visible supply-centers or the invisible stock which still remains to be marketed.

"Evidently some one has blundered, and there has been a similar miscalculation about the needs of foreign buyers and the resources of exporting countries other than the United States. These various blunders have been costly ones for American farmers, who have sold their stocks for less than they would have brought in the world's markets if the facts had been more correctly understood; and costly, too, for the speculative 'wind-sellers,' who have recklessly pinned their faith upon theories of underestimates of the world's shortage in wheat supplies during the past year."—*The Record, Philadelphia.*

"The rapid rise and extreme fluctuations at present are due, of course, to the simple fact that there is at present little or no wheat for sale; that is to say, none that is not cornered. Small transactions suffice to effect large changes in prices. The short interest in New York is said to lack 1,000,000 bushels, and that in Chicago 8,000,000 bushels. It is impossible to say how much higher prices may be forced before this shortage is covered. It is to be hoped that the 'corner' may be broken before our export trade is seriously arrested and before the price of flour is further advanced. If our wheat is held too high the poor of Europe will have to eat other food-stuffs. A determination on the part of Europe to cease buying for a time in consequence of our abnormal prices might have a serious effect. All experience goes to show that excessive rigging of the market tends to produce a reaction in which the manipulators suffer severely. A tumble and crash in the market is, therefore, not improbable, with the effect of restoring prices to a normal figure, such figure under present conditions being nearer \$1 than \$1.90."—*The Sun, Baltimore.*

INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE OF MANILA.

NEWSPAPER correspondents who witnessed the marvelous naval engagement at Manila, May 1, enjoyed the rare privilege of furnishing word-pictures for the world's memory gallery. J. L. Stickney, correspondent of a syndicate including the New York *Herald* and the Chicago *Times-Herald*, formerly holding active rank as lieutenant in the navy, was on the flag-ship *Olympia* during the battle, and reported the conflict in detail. His account shows that the night entrance to the bay was made by our squadron in the following order, which was kept during the whole time of the first battle: Flag-ship *Olympia*, *Baltimore*, *Raleigh*, *Petrel*, *Concord*, *Boston*. A single shot from a shore battery and several replies from our ships marked the entrance; our sailors sleeping alongside their guns until daybreak, by which time the fleet, steaming slowly, was within five miles of Manila. Nine Spanish ships, protected by the arsenal at Cavité, remained under way during most of the action (Spanish despatches alleged that their ships did not have steam up). Two powerful submarine mines were exploded ahead of the flag-ship at 6:05 A.M., but they did no harm. The account proceeds:

"Only a few minutes later the shore battery at Cavité Point sent over the flag-ship a shot that nearly hit the battery in Manila, but soon the guns got a better range and the shells began to strike near us or burst close aboard from both the batteries and the Spanish vessels.

"The heat was intense. Men stripped off all clothing except their trousers.

"As the *Olympia* drew nearer all was silent on board as if the ship had been empty, except for the whirr of blowers and the throb of the engines.

"Suddenly a shell burst directly over us.

"From the boatswain's mate at the after 5-inch gun came a hoarse cry. 'Remember the *Maine*!' arose from the throats of five hundred men at the guns. This watchword was caught up in turrets and fire-rooms, wherever seaman or fireman stood at his post. 'Remember the *Maine*!' had rung out for defiance and revenge. Its utterance seemed unpremeditated, but was evi-

dently in every man's mind, and, now that the moment had come to make adequate reply to the murder of the *Maine*'s crew, every man shouted what was in his heart.

"The *Olympia* was now ready to begin the fight. Commodore Dewey, his chief-of-staff, Commander Lamberton and aide and myself, with Executive Officer Rees and Navigator Lieutenant Calkins, who conned ship most admirably, were on the forward bridge. Captain Gridley was in the conning tower, as it was thought unsafe to risk losing all the senior officers by one shell. 'You may fire when ready, Gridley,' said the commodore, and nineteen minutes of six o'clock, at a distance of 5,500 yards, the starboard 8-inch gun in the forward turret roared forth a compliment to the Spanish forts.

"The piercing scream of shot was varied often by the bursting of time-fuse shells, fragments of which would lash the water like shrapnel or cut our hull and rigging. One large shell that was coming straight at the *Olympia*'s forward bridge fortunately fell within less than one hundred feet away. One fragment cut the rigging exactly over the heads of Lamberton, Rees, and myself. Another struck the bridge gratings in line with it. A third passed just under Commodore Dewey and gouged a hole in the deck. Incidents like these were plentiful.

"Protected by their shore batteries and made safe from close attack by shallow water, the Spaniards were in a strong position. They put up a gallant fight.

"The Spanish ships were sailing back and forth behind the *Castilla*, and their fire, too, was hot.

"One shot struck the *Baltimore* and passed clean through her, fortunately hitting no one. Another ripped up her main deck, disabled a 6-inch gun and exploded a box of 3-pounder ammunition, wounding eight men. The *Olympia* was struck abreast the gun in the wardroom by a shell which burst outside, doing little damage. The signal halyards were cut from Lieutenant Brumby's hand on the after-bridge. A shell entered the *Boston*'s port quarter and burst in Ensign Dodridge's stateroom, starting a hot fire, and fire was also caused by a shell which burst in the port hammock netting. Both these fires were quickly put out. Another shell passed through the *Boston*'s foremast just in front of Captain Wildes, on the bridge.

"After having made four runs along the Spanish line, finding the chart incorrect, Lieutenant Calkins, the *Olympia*'s navigator, told the commodore he believed he could take the ship nearer the enemy, with lead going to watch the depth of water. The flag-ship started over the course for the fifth time, running within two thousand yards of the Spanish vessels. At this range even 6-pounders were effective, and the storm of shells poured upon the unfortunate Spanish began to show marked results. Three of the enemy's vessels were seen burning and their fire slackened.

"On finishing this run Commodore Dewey decided to give the men breakfast, as they had been at the guns two hours with only one cup of coffee to sustain them. Action ceased temporarily at twenty-five minutes of eight o'clock, the other ships passing the flag-ship and the men cheering lustily.

"Our ships remained beyond range of the enemy's guns until ten minutes of eleven o'clock, when the signal for close action again went up. The *Baltimore* had the place of honor in the lead, with the flag-ship following and the other ships as before. The *Baltimore* began firing at the Spanish ships and batteries at sixteen minutes past eleven o'clock, making a series of hits as if at target practise.

"The Spaniards replied very slowly, and the commodore signaled the *Raleigh*, the *Boston*, the *Concord*, and the *Petrel* to go into the inner harbor and destroy all the enemy's ships. By her light draft the little *Petrel* was enabled to move within one thousand yards. Here, firing swiftly but accurately, she commanded everything still flying the Spanish flag.

"Other ships were also doing their whole duty, and soon not one red and yellow ensign remained aloft, except on a battery up the coast.

"The Spanish flag-ship and the *Castilla* had long been burning fiercely, and the last vessel to be abandoned was the *Don Antonio de Ulloa*, which lurched over and sank.

"Then the Spanish flag on the Arsenal staff was hauled down, and at half-past twelve o'clock a white flag was hoisted there. Signal was made to the *Petrel* to destroy all the vessels in the inner harbor, and Lieutenant Hughes, with an armed boat's crew, set fire to the *Don Juan de Austria*, the *Marquise del Duero*, the *Isla de Cuba*, and the *Correo*.

"The large transport *Manila* and many tugboats and small craft fell into our hands.

"Capture or destroy Spanish squadron," were Dewey's orders. Never were instructions more effectually carried out. Within seven hours after arriving on the scene of action nothing remained to be done.

"The commodore closed the day by anchoring off the city of Manila and sending word to the governor-general that if a shot was fired from the city at the fleet he would lay Manila in ashes.

"As Governor-General Augusti failed to comply with Commodore Dewey's demand for the use of the cable to Hongkong after Sunday's battle, the commodore was obliged to cut the cable on Monday."

The revenue-boat *McCulloch* lay at some distance from our line of fighting ships, protecting the supply-ship and collier. John T. McCutcheon, staff correspondent of the Chicago *Record* on the *McCulloch*, tells of Spanish braggadocio and bravery and gives other interesting particulars of the engagement:

"Shortly before five o'clock Sunday morning and when every vessel in the fleet had reported itself in readiness to move on Cavité, the crews were drawn up and the remarkable proclamation issued by the governor-general of the Philippine Islands, on April 23, was read to the men. Every American sailor went into battle determined to resent the insults contained in the message, which was as follows:

"Spaniards! Hostilities have broken out between Spain and the United States. The moment has arrived for us to prove to the world that we possess the spirit to conquer those who, pretending to be loyal friends, have taken advantage of our misfortune and abused our hospitalities, using means which civilized nations count unworthy and disreputable.

"The North American people, constituted of all the social excrescences, have exhausted our patience and provoked war with their perfidious machinations, with their acts of treachery, with their outrages against laws of nations and international conventions. The struggle will be short and decisive, the God of victories will give us one as brilliant and complete as the righteousness and justice of our cause demand. Spain, which counts on the sympathies of all the nations, will emerge triumphantly from the new test, humiliating and blasting the adventurers from those states that, without cohesion and without history, offer to humanity only infamous tradition and the ungrateful spectacle of chambers in which appear united insolence, cowardice, and cynicism. A squadron, manned by foreigners possessing neither instructions nor discipline, is preparing to come to this archipelago with the ruffianly intention of robbing us of all that means life, honor, and liberty.

"Pretending to be inspired by a courage of which they are incapable, the North American seamen undertake as an enterprise capable of realization the substitution of Protestantism for the Catholic religion you profess, to treat you as tribes refractory to civilization, to take possession of your riches as if they were unacquainted with the rights of property, and kidnap those persons whom they consider useful to man their ships or to be exploited in agricultural or individual labor. Vain design! Ridiculous boasting! Your indomitable bravery will suffice to frustrate the attempt to carry them into realization. You will not allow the faith you profess to be made a mockery, impious hands to be placed on the temple of the true God, the images you adore to be thrown down by unbelief. The aggressors shall not profane the tombs of your fathers. They shall not gratify their lustful passions at the cost of your wives' and daughter's honor or appropriate the property that your industry has accumulated as a provision for your old age. No! They shall not perpetrate the crimes inspired by their wickedness and covetousness, because your valor and patriotism will suffice to punish and abase the people that, claiming to be civilized and cultivated, have exterminated the natives of North America instead of bringing to them the life of civilization and progress. Men of the Philippines, prepare for the struggle, and united under the glorious Spanish flag, which is ever covered with laurels, let us fight with the conviction that victory will crown our efforts, and to the calls of our enemies let us oppose with the decision of the Christian and patriotic the cry of 'Viva España!'

Your governor,

BASILIO AUGUSTIN DIVILIO."

If the cry of 'Remember the Maine' were not enough to put the American sailors in a fighting mood as the war-ships moved forward in battle line, the memory of this insulting proclamation helped to put them on their mettle.

"As the *Olympia* approached Admiral Montejo gave orders, and the *Reina Christina* moved out from the line to engage the big flag-ship of the American fleet. Admiral's Dewey's boat welcomed the battle. Every battery on the *Olympia* was turned on the *Reina Christina*. In the face of this awful fire she still advanced. The American sailors had ridiculed the gunnery of the Spaniards, but they had to admire this act of bravery. She came forward and attempted to swing into action against the *Olympia*, but was struck fore and aft by a perfect storm of projectiles. With the *Olympia* still pounding at her, she swung around and started back for the protection of the navy yard.

Just after she had turned a well-aimed shell from one of the *Olympia*'s 8-inch guns struck her, fairly wrecking the engine-room and exploding a magazine. She was seen to be on fire, but she painfully continued her way toward the shelter of Cavité and continued firing until she was a mass of flames. It was during this retreat that Captain Cadarso was killed. The bridge was shot from under Admiral Montejo. The Spanish sailors could be seen swarming out of the burning ship and into the small boats. Admiral Montejo escaped and transferred his pennant to the *Castilla*. He had been on the *Castilla* less than five minutes when it was set on fire by an exploding shell.

"Toward the close of the decisive engagement, and just after the *Reina Christina* had been sent back, hammered to pieces and set on fire, two small torpedo-boats made a daring attempt to slip up on the *Olympia*. A pall of smoke was hanging over the water. Taking advantage of this, they darted out from the Spanish lines and headed straight for the American flag-ship. They were fully 800 yards in advance of the Spanish line (or more than half of the way toward the *Olympia*) when they were discovered. Admiral Dewey signaled his men to concentrate all batteries on them. Every gun on the port side of the *Olympia* was leveled on the two little craft which came flying across the water. A fierce fire was opened, but they escaped the first volley and came on at full speed. The flag-ship stopped. A second broadside was delivered. The torpedo-boats were either injured or else alarmed, for they turned hastily and started for the shore. An 8-inch shell struck one. It exploded and sunk immediately, with all on board. The other, which had been hit, ran all the way to shore and was beached. These were the only two attempts the Spanish made to offer offensive battle.

"There are some very interesting figures as to the amount of firing done by our ships during the battle. The *Olympia* fired 1,764 shells, aggregating twenty-five tons in weight. The *Baltimore* did even heavier firing, being called upon to reduce the forts after the first engagement, and sent no less than thirty-five tons of metal into the Spanish ships and the land batteries. The remainder of the fleet shot a total of eighty tons of metal, making a grand total of 140 tons.

"The eight men who were hurt by the explosion on the *Baltimore* continued to fight until the end of the battle.

"The *Boston* was struck once and the officers' quarters set on fire.

"For some reason the Spanish gunners seemed to think that the *Baltimore* was especially dangerous, having the general build of a battle-ship, and, next to the flag-ship, she had to withstand the greatest amount of firing, and was struck several times, with no great damage.

"I went over the fleet soon after the second engagement of Sunday, and except for the torn rigging and a few dents here and there few signs could be discovered that the vessels had engaged in one of the most decisive naval battles of modern times.

"The *Concord* and the *Petrel* were not hit at all, altho the latter went deeper into the enemy's position than any other vessel in our fleet.

"The *Olympia* made a glorious record. She was struck thirteen times, counting the shells which tore through her rigging, but she came out as good as she went in.

"The *Baltimore* was hit more fairly than any other of the



WILL WEAR THE STARS AND STRIPES.

UNCLE SAM: "Here, sonny, put on these duds." — *The Journal, Minneapolis*.

ships. Two shells pierced her hull, but the commander estimates that the total damage is not more than \$1,000.

"Compare these trivial losses with the fearful damage done to the Spanish. As nearly as I can estimate, after canvassing the opinions of naval officers, about 400 Spanish were killed or went down in the ships, and perhaps 600 or more were wounded. Eleven of their ships were totally demolished, and the Americans captured one transport and several smaller vessels.

"Their money loss by reason of the battle is placed at \$5,000,000, to say nothing of the probable loss of the city of Manila and the whole group of Philippine Islands.

"The most interesting capture made by the Americans was a bundle of private papers belonging to Admiral Montejo. One of these communications, bearing his signature, shows that it was his intention to have a general review and inspection of the fleet at seven o'clock on Sunday morning. This proves that he was not expecting the American fleet so soon. Other papers show that it had been his intention at one time to entrust the defense of Manila to the land batteries and take the fleet to Subig Bay, north of Manila, believing that he could there take up a strong position and have an advantage over an attacking fleet.

"According to the reports from Manila the admiral first went ashore at Cavite and had his wounds dressed. He succeeded in evading the insurgents, who wished to capture him, and arrived in Manila twelve hours after the fight.

"I have talked with some Spanish officers, and they attribute the American victory to the rapidity and the accuracy of our fire rather than to the weight of projectiles used. Also, the fact that the American ships were painted a lead color and did not stand out boldly against the water made them very unsatisfactory targets and kept the Spanish gunners guessing as to the correct range.

"In spite of his overwhelming defeat Admiral Montejo did not forget the courtesies of the occasion. On Monday he sent word by the British consul to Admiral Dewey that he wished to compliment the Americans on their marksmanship. He said that never before had he witnessed such rapid and accurate firing. Admiral Dewey, not to be outdone in the amenities of war, sent his compliments to the Spanish admiral and praised the Spaniards very highly for their courage and resistance."

The Hongkong correspondent of the *London Times*, on arriving at that place from Manila, wrote:

"I had a conversation with Admiral Montejo, who, recognizing the superiority of the American squadron, admitted that his chief object was to seek the protection of the Cavite forts. He fought in the *Reina Maria Cristina* till she was on fire fore and aft, and had fifty-two killed. On the advice of his flag-lieutenant, he transferred his flag to the *Isla de Cuba*. Eventually, after two and a half hours' fighting, he gave the signal to scuttle and abandon her. Commodore Dewey ceased fire and asked permission of the forts to destroy the burning ships. Admiral Montejo replied: 'The ships are at your mercy; do as you like.' The American fire was then resumed till the Spanish squadron was completely annihilated.

"The captain of the *Boston*, who carried the flag of truce, said: 'You combated us with four very bad ships, not war-ships. We have never before seen braver fighting under such unequal conditions. It is a great pity you exposed your lives on vessels not fit for fighting.'

"Commodore Dewey sent a message to Admiral Montejo as follows: 'I have pleasure in clasping your hand and offering my congratulations on the gallant manner in which you fought.'

"BREAD RIOTS" IN ITALY.

FORMIDABLE "bread riots" were reported in various localities of Italy last week, to suppress which the military were called forth and hundreds of rioters were shot down. An exceedingly rigid press censorship is exercised, and in many places, it is said, martial law prevails. Newspapers in the United States represent the riots as the premature outbreak of a revolution long planned, and hastened by the rise in the price of cereals and by the inauguration of the Spanish-American war.

The New York *Sun* publishes an account of the conditions lead-

ing up to the present disturbances, given by the widow of Dario Papa, late owner of the Republican paper *Italia del Popolo*, which is one of the papers reported to have been seized by the Italian Government. We quote from the interview in part as follows:

"Sympathy with the starving was undoubtedly the cause of what was intended to be a peaceful demonstration in Milan and ended in revolt. There are very serious reasons for revolt. The outbreaks in all parts of Italy are caused by grievances of long standing. Each year a hundred thousand people go mad from hunger in Italy. This is according to official statistics, and does not include the thousands in a half-demented state called *la melancolia*, from lack of nourishment. There are hundreds of thousands who never have enough to eat, or live on moldy corn year in and year out, till soul and body can barely stay together. The general suffering in Italy is so great that nothing like it exists in any other country.

"The Hispano-American conflict may have aggravated the conditions, for the increase of a *centesimo*, the fifth of a cent, on a pound of corn meal is felt by the poor. [The Government has suspended the corn duties.—ED. LITERARY DIGEST.]

"There are 4,965 cantons where the use of meat is unknown, except in moneyed families, and there are 1,700 where food made of flour or grain is rarely eaten except on holidays, or in cases of sickness. What do they eat? Roots and acorns are largely used in some parts of Italy.

"The 'bread riot' is merely this: Starving women and children go to the town hall asking for bread, supposing in their ignorance that the municipal authorities are able to provide it. They are met by the soldiers, who fire upon them, killing some and dispersing the others. This has occurred frequently of late years. The killing of helpless women and children has always aroused the indignation of the Milanese, who are good, intelligent people. They are the strongest of the Italians, and Milan is the first commercial city of Italy. So a protest from Milan has weight. Milan has been republican at heart since the war of independence. . . .

"All that is in opposition to the Government is called anarchy in Italy. The charge of anarchy is used as a pretext for suppressing all opposing political organizations. The indignation of the people has been slowly rising while thousands have been wrongfully imprisoned or sent to '*domicilis coatto*,' banishment to islands or places where they would not be heard from.

"I once attended a court-martial trial in Lunigiana where twenty-seven so-called anarchists were tried for a revolt in which nobody was hurt except by the soldiers of the Government. They were most of them mere boys, and not one was an Anarchist. They were sentenced to from four to fifteen years of imprisonment—a couple of centuries of imprisonment in all—on the testimony of an officer who, years afterward, through remorse, confessed to having sworn falsely against them. It might be supposed that the poor fellows were immediately released, but they were not, for that was considered 'against discipline.'

"*L'Italia del Popolo* is the only republican daily paper in Italy. It was founded by Dario Papa, who devoted his life to preaching ideas of progress and liberty to the Italians. He was called 'The American' because he became persuaded while in America that the federal republican form of government is the only one suitable for Italy with its small dissimilar states and its political and religious dissensions. All Italians are coming to this conclusion, even the Pope. Dario Papa was a patriot who wrote such things as this: 'National decorum should consist in not letting the people die of hunger through overtaxation on food; then our people would not be obliged to carry their appetites, their rags, and their ignorance around the known world, lowering the wages of other workmen by their competition, so becoming objects of a hatred and ridicule as unjust to them as it would be just if turned against the Government which is the cause of this state of things.'

"This tax on food has been growing heavier each year. The duties are double or triple what they are in other states. The *pellagra*, hunger-madness, increases and the Government does nothing to relieve it, the all that is necessary is to give the poor creatures good food. In the mean time millions are being wasted for the monarchy with its armies and other follies, such as the civilizing of Africa. The civil list is the largest in the world compared to the resources of the country. Humbert receives much more than Queen Victoria. He knows by his official bureau of statistics that Italy is on the verge of collapse, and he puts his millions in the Bank of England to have them safe."

The Rome correspondent of the *London Times* explains that the bread issue is a mere pretext for insurrection, prepared beforehand by associations of navvies and railway employees in which a strong socialistic and republican leaven has long been working. He says:

"Besides many other proofs of this statement it will suffice to say that the rioting is confined to the richest districts in the country. Another strong political motive underlying the movement is the well-known desire of the Vatican and the clericals to

foment disorders, hoping thereby to overthrow the House of Savoy in favor of a republic, which might pave the way to a restoration of the temporal power of the Pope."

Culmination of Discontent.—"Nominally and superficially the outbreak is due to the high price of wheat and the recklessness of starvation. Actually it is the culmination of years of discontent, burdensome taxation, internecine conflict between rulers, and an attempt on the part of a poor nation to maintain a degree of military importance befitting only the richest and strongest. Ever since the monarchy was restored the struggle has gone on, to justify the overthrow of the temporal power by the upbuilding of the nation on a scale commensurate with that of neighboring states. To accomplish this task, naval and military establishments were necessary, in order to render Italy a power to be reckoned with and to preserve that 'balance of power' which has been for nearly a century the ruling principle of European politics. But the effort has exhausted her. The country could not stand the strain of associating on even terms with her rich neighbors. The attempt was crushing, and when to all this was added the extravagant folly of the Abyssinian campaign, with its humiliating climax, it was plain that a change was impending. That miserable enterprise revealed the degree of corruption and incompetence existing in the administration, and exposed the hollowness of the Government.

"In the mean time, it must be remembered, the phrase 'United Italy' is a misnomer. The country is far from union. The breach between the Quirinal and the Vatican has never been filled. The temporal power has never been surrendered by the latter, nor the design of a restoration of its exercise abandoned. With such a silent warfare in operation, the marvel is that the Government has lasted so long. It has not reached its end yet, perhaps; it may weather the present storm and gather new strength from the effort; but its policy in the future must be one of retrenchment and dependence if it is to escape such revolutions as this uprising is now acknowledged to be."—*The News, Newark, N. J.*

Italy and Spain Compared.—"The fact is that Italy is worse off than Spain, apart from the acute troubles which have come to Spain. The national credit has, indeed, been better. Italian 5s have commanded nearly 90, while Spanish 4s, before Spain got into trouble with us, were about 60. But it has been the Spanish colonies which have been millstones about Spain's neck. If she had been free of them her financial position would not be so very desperate. The sea and the Pyrenees isolate her so that she does not need to maintain a great armament. In proportion to her population, her standing army of 128,000 men on a peace footing is less of a burden than the 231,000 of Italy, and there is no comparison, either in efficiency or in costliness, between the two navies. Even in 1897, when Spain was making extraordinary efforts to suppress the rebellion in Cuba, but which was a normal year for Italy, the combined military and naval estimates amounted in Spain to \$29,000,000, while in Italy they amounted to \$67,000,000. The whole Spanish budget was \$174,000,000, against \$334,000,000 for Italy.

"There can scarcely be such a disparity between the productive capacity of the two nations of which one has thirty millions of population and the other seventeen. That Italy maintains her credit so much better than Spain did, even before the present war broke out or became imminent, must mean that her people are much more heavily taxed. And that we believe to be the case. Italy has been for twenty years and more competing in armaments with nations of far greater resources. She allowed her Government, so to speak, to take more stock in the Dreibund than it could afford, and in a time of unbroken peace she has been crushed under the weight of her preparations for war. At least ten years ago Sir Charles Dilke showed that she must break down under the load she had assumed. Her trouble is chronic, while that of Spain is in comparison merely acute, so far as the existing distress is concerned. In other respects there is, of course, no comparison, because Italy is an enterprising and progressive nation, upon which the modern industrial spirit has fairly taken hold. But the riots in Italy are for that very reason more full of political significance than the riots in Spain. It is to be hoped that Italy will see in what her mistake has lain, and will reduce her armament in better proportion to her ability to carry it, while it is beyond hope that Spain will recognize her mistakes. Meanwhile, the internal condition of Italy seems to be almost as dangerous as the internal condition of Spain."—*The Times, New York.*

The Danger in Europe.—"Late advices that the so-called 'bread riots' in Italy are really the premature manifestations of a planned revolutionary uprising indicate that the European opposition to an American-Spanish war was not unreasonable. The Italian Government is in no worse repute with its people than the Government of Austria-Hungary, or even those of Germany and France. All of them have been trembling for years through the fear that a spark might fire the magazines and cause a revolutionary explosion throughout continental Europe.

"It was the assumption that the American war with Spain, in the cause of human liberty, might prove to be the fatal spark that set those governments so anxiously against any hostilities, and it is the same dread that prevents them from any attempt at intervention, as much as the attitude of Great Britain. The ruling classes well know how social democracy, republicanism, and anarchy have been growing under the influences of military despotism; they understand that war, which would engage their armies with a foreign foe, would be the opportunity for the disaffected elements to strike just as they are striking, and have been expected to strike, in Spain. And so, while they were anxious enough to prevent a war for liberty that would attract universal attention, they have not been willing to involve their armies in outside operations lest they may be needed to suppress insurrections at home.

"It is this same consideration that has inspired the German press in its unanimous abuse of the United States—an abuse that is intended to smother any sentiment of admiration for this country or its institutions that might be aroused by incidents of the war—and which, at the same time, moves the German Emperor to expressions of friendship, for the consumption of loyal German-speaking citizens of America. How well founded these apprehensions have been may be seen in the results from war in Spain and from sympathetic excitement in Italy.

"Whether the disturbance will extend beyond the borders of those hysterical Latin countries can not be predicted. It is enough for Americans to know that the danger of its spread will be sufficient to prevent the European imperialists making any serious attempt to interfere in our affairs. Great Britain is America's friend in this juncture, and there is not another power in Europe that could undertake a war with any other first-class power without taking the risk of rebellion at home, such as is racking Spain."—*The Dispatch, Pittsburg.*

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

THERE is no uncertainty as to the whereabouts of the Spanish squadron of the Pacific.—*The Free Press, Detroit.*

THERE seems to be no escape from the conclusion that Spain is pretty near the end of her Manila.—*The Tribune, Detroit.*

KLONDIKE? Klondike? Seems to us we heard of such a place once upon a time, but it must have been "before the war."—*The Tribune, Minneapolis.*

"TELL the class what an island is, Sammy."

"Yes'm; an island is a body of land surrounded by United States battleships."—*The Record, Chicago.*

Old King Coal
Plays a jolly new rôle,
A jolly new rôle plays he.

"Powder and ball
Are of no use at all
If you can't make steam," says he.

Old King Coal
Plays a jolly new rôle,
For he is king of the sea!

—*The Record, Philadelphia.*



THE ORCHESTRA WILL TAKE A FEW BARS' REST.

—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

LETTERS AND ART.

UTILITY OF MUSIC IN WAR.

"WHAT do you think of music?" was once asked of an eminent American novelist. "Oh," he replied, "I see no harm in it." This, Mr. Henry T. Finck thinks, illustrates the attitude of many people who consider music but a sort of playing, and who will be surprised to learn in how many different ways music is and always has been useful to mankind. Mr. Finck thereupon proceeds (*The Forum*, May) to enlighten such Philistines. He refers briefly to the number of people who find a living in musical art and in the manufactures growing out of it (nearly 250,000, he thinks, in the United States alone); quotes from travelers to show how helpful music is to workmen in different countries both as a stimulus and in insuring by its rhythm concert of action in such occupations as rowing; speaks of the various uses from time immemorial in religion, in medical practise (especially with nervous difficulties and in stimulating the brain), and in social life; and ranks it among the moral agencies because of its refining effects and its power to wean young people from debasing pursuits.

The utility of music in matters pertaining to war is also brought out strongly, and to this feature of the case we confine our quotations. The use of music in war-signals is first touched upon:

"To the present day, in all the armies of the world, such musical war-signals are considered not only useful, but absolutely indispensable. The Infantry Drill Regulations of the United States army give the music and significance of more than sixty trumpet-signals—calls of warning, of assembly, of alarm, of service, with such names as 'guard-mounting,' 'drill,' 'stable,' 'to arms,' 'fire,' 'retreat,' 'church,' 'fatigue,' 'attention,' 'forward,' 'halt,' 'quick time,' 'double time,' 'charge,' 'lie down,' 'rise,' etc., besides a dozen or more drum-and-fife signals all of which must be known to the soldiers, to whom they are a definite language, in the sense of Wagnerian *Leit-motive*. Every one is familiar with such expressions as 'drumming up recruits,' 'drumming out deserters,' and so on."

But beside its use for signaling music is used in five other ways for purposes of war: as a valuable adjunct in drill and parade, as (formerly) a means of producing panics, in arousing patriotism and keeping up courage, in inspiring soldiers in time of fatigue, and in providing entertainment in time of peace. In reference to its use in arousing warriors Mr. Finck says:

"This use [in producing panics, *à la* the Chinese] of music, is obsolete in our armies. Not so the employment of melodies to rouse the courage of the soldiers and stir their flagging energies. Grey says that in Australia four or five old women can, with their singing, stir up forty or fifty men to commit any bloody deed; and Wallaschek justly says of primitive music that, instead of softening manners, it too often 'inspired the savages with a desire for fighting, it aroused their anger, excited their fanaticism, and, by accompanying their war-dances also in time of peace, it aroused their lust for war.' For this reason it is among warlike nations that early music is most developed. The Spartans, the most warlike of all the Greeks, were remarkable for their devotion to music. Tyrtæus, seven centuries before Christ, induced them to use the martial trumpet; and his ardent patriotic songs helped the Spartans to many of their victories. In the Bible there are frequent references to the encouragement given to warriors by music, as, for instance, in 'Chronicles,' where the victory over Jeroboam is attributed to the encouragement derived from the sounding of the trumpet by the priests. It would be superfluous to add anything regarding the miracles of patriotic or fanatic valor wrought by such modern tunes as the 'Marseillaise' or 'Die Wacht am Rhein.'"

In the matter of dispelling weariness on the march, Field Marshal Lord Wolseley is quoted (in his preface to "The Soldier's Song-Book") as follows:

"Troops that sing as they march will not only reach their destination

more quickly and in better fighting condition than those who march in silence, but inspired by the music and words of national songs, will feel that self-confidence which is the mother of victory."

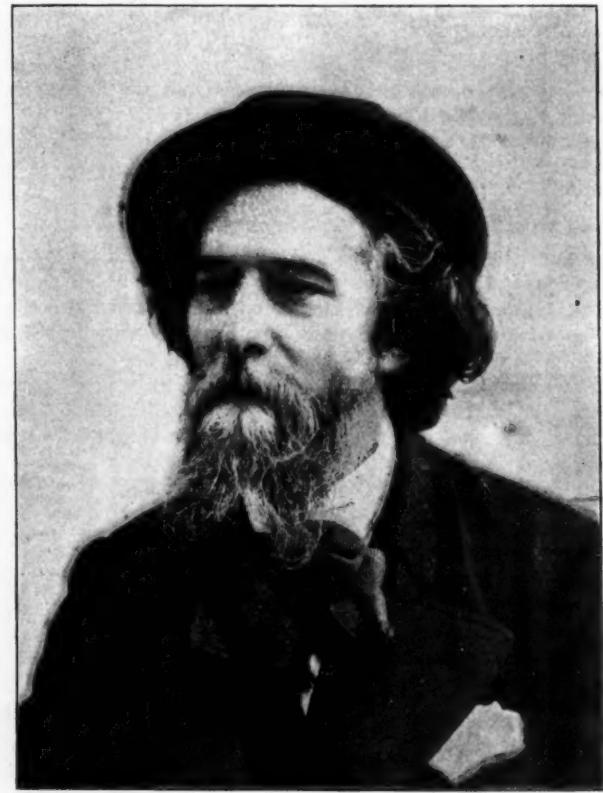
Mr. Finck adds:

"The German army includes more than 10,000 military musicians, able-bodied men who might as well be soldiers. We may feel sure that the great and shrewd commanders of the German army would not employ in times of war such an enormous number of musicians unless they believed that in this way these players could do more good than an equal number of fighting-men. In other words, the generals fully appreciate and indorse the utility of music."

ALPHONSE DAUDET DESCRIBED BY HIS SON.

FIRST ARTICLE.

THREE articles upon Alphonse Daudet, by his son Leon Daudet, have appeared in the *Revue de Paris* (March 15, April 1, April 15), which are of exceptional interest. Himself a brilliant writer, worshiping his father, and intimately acquainted, as no other could be, with his distinctive traits, the son's touch-



ALPHONSE DAUDET.
From his last photograph.

ing and impassioned tribute will everywhere enhance the admiration that is already felt for this brilliant and beloved novelist. The striking resemblance (before his sickness) between the head of Alphonse Daudet and the typical head of Christ has been frequently commented upon, and it is impossible to read the son's sketch without feeling that there was in Daudet's character, as well as in his appearance, a truly Christ-like benignity. Leon Daudet writes:

"The tomb has securely closed upon him, and I am called upon to give his picture to the world. I do it with a courageous heart, broken with atrocious grief; for he of whom I write was not merely an exemplary father and husband. He was my teacher, my counsellor, my best friend. . . . My heart overflows—I will open it—so many noble and beautiful things that he has said are trembling within me, seeking a vent. I will scatter them among his innumerable admirers. Let them fear nothing. Their gentle consoler was without stain. When I look back upon the past, I see him, calm and smiling, notwithstanding his cruel tortures; ever

serene, ever affectionate; and with an indulgence and compassion for the faults of others that at certain grave and critical moments has cast me trembling with admiration at his feet."

It is well known that Alphonse Daudet was stricken suddenly by an incurable malady, of which he remained for many years the victim; and that he endured this terrible affliction with the courage of a martyr, never permitting himself to become embittered or his intellectual activity to be impeded by his physical infirmities. The narrative of his son reveals more fully than ever his heroic fortitude in the deadly embrace of this implacable enemy, and makes manifest that through dire suffering the invalid's character was continually elevated and his talent exalted.

But the son's recollections go back to the time of his infancy—back to the time when his father was still young and strong, and crowned with his budding laurels.

Many of these early reminiscences cast a vivid light upon the earlier years of Daudet:

"We were in the country, in Provence, visiting a family of our dear friends. The morning was admirable, vibrant with bees and perfumes; my companion took his Virgil, his cloak, and his short pipe, and we wandered forth, and ensconced ourselves on the border of a rivulet. The dark cypress-trees near us enhanced the clear blue of the horizon, delicately intersected with roseate and golden lines. My father explained to me *les Georgiques*. Then it was that poetry was revealed to me. The beauty of the verses, the rhythmical intonations of the musical voice reciting them, and the harmony of the landscape, penetrated my soul with a single impression. An immense beatitude took possession of me. I felt suffocated, and burst into tears. My father knew what was going on within me, and, pressing me to his heart, shared my enthusiasm. I was drunken with beauty."

Another scene at a later date:

"It is evening—I return from the Lyceum after attending several lectures. Our master, Burdeau, had just analyzed Schopenhauer for us with incomparable clearness and insight. I was disturbed by his somber theories. In fact, then for the first time I had tasted the fruit of death, and of distress. How came it that the words of the gloomy pessimist made such an impression upon my sensitive brain? That I will not attempt to elucidate, but my father understood me. I had said scarcely anything, but he saw from my looks that the lesson had been too severe for my youth and inexperience. Then he drew me tenderly to his side, and he, upon whom the black shadow had already fallen, for my sake celebrated life in terms that I shall never forget. He told me of work, that ennobles everything; of radiant goodness; of pity, in which refuge may be found; and finally of love, a consolation even for death that I knew now only by name, but which in time would be revealed to me, and dazzle me with inconceivable raptures. How strong and convincing were his words! He presented me with a radiant picture of the life into which I was about to adventure. The arguments of the philosopher fell one by one before his eloquence; this, my first and most violent attack of metaphysics, he repelled victoriously. Do not smile, you who read these pages. I now comprehend the importance of this little domestic drama. Since that evening I have been gorged with metaphysics, and I know that by means of it a subtle poison infected my veins, and those of my contemporaries. It is not because of its pessimism that this philosophy is so much to be dreaded, but because it distorts and masks what is best in life. I regret bitterly that I did not fix in my memory my father's discourses—it would have been a comfort to many."

Altho his malady was incurable, the novelist, it would appear, might have lived for many years; and he supported his sufferings with such victorious constancy that his friends, and even his family, failed to realize that he was living ever with the sword of Damocles suspended over his head. His death, when it came, was sudden and altogether unexpected. The week before he had attended an author's dinner, and was the life of the party—the brilliant scene has been described in graphic terms by Zola, in his tribute to his friend.

In their own family, Leon Daudet writes, the dinner hour was always one of rare enjoyment:

"Seated between my grandmother, whom he adored, and my mother, whom he admired above all, his daughter, and his two sons, at that dear table, which his disappearance has left void and silent, he exerted himself as much to be entertaining as at a social reunion."

It was there, at this table, that he was struck by death. The family were chatting familiarly, gay and happy as usual, when, after a sudden, mysterious silence, Alphonse Daudet threw back his beautiful head, already clammy with an icy sweat, and they heard the ominous sound of the death-rattle. They rushed to his assistance, his physician was summoned, but all efforts were in vain. Life had fled like the swift lightning's gleam. An hour later, he was reposing upon his bed "beautiful as his image in our hearts, amid stifled sobs, and the motionless light of the flambeaux."

Daudet fils turns from these sad scenes to the discussion of his father's aims and position as a novelist and man of letters:

"By my father literature and life were never separated. Art for him meant achievement. That was the secret of his influence. To create types, and to bring consolation to suffering hearts, was his dearest desire."

The charge brought against Alphonse Daudet by many of his critics, that he was not a *thinker*, his son resents, and denies categorically. He was not a pedant, not a fashioner of empty phrases, he says; but a *thinker*, earnest and vigorous, he was, in the true sense of the word. Reference is made to the note-books which Daudet transcribed with the utmost care, during his whole literary career, and the son declares that these inestimable volumes, from which he quotes freely in his concluding article, demonstrate how courageously his father grappled with the most profound problems of life and how successful he was in interpreting them. Here also can be clearly traced the history of his intellectual development. The note-books of his concluding years, above all, are of extraordinary value, both in substance and form. The son writes:

"These ardent words, these intense phrases, weighty with experience, flung together in strange juxtaposition, often without any apparent link between them, but in accordance, nevertheless, to an inherent, profound attraction, like the colors and the features of a sketch of Velasquez, or of Rembrandt; these mordant sentences, with their cruel realism, trembling with sincerity and agony, awake innumerable reflections. And from this style so terse, so abridged, so concentrated, from this tissue of flesh and nerves, go forth astonishing formulas, fulminating revelations, that bear witness to his marvelous powers of observation and analysis."

Montaigne, Pascal, and Rousseau were among Daudet's favorite authors. Montaigne he had always by his side. Descartes and Spinoza he admired chiefly among the philosophers; and, altho opposed to his doctrines, Schopenhauer was read by him with keen relish. The book that he studied more than any other, however, was *the book of life*. According to him it is only through practical experience that we can learn to know the truth; and again, he constantly maintained that *emotion* is the real source of all that is great in art. One of his own most striking characteristics was certainly his extreme sensibility, a most rare capacity for deep feeling, that was never diminished either by suffering or the flight of time. In maturity his emotions were as keen and as quickly aroused as in his ardent youth; but they had been ennobled and purified by his profound and sad experience.

His famous irony was the flower of tenderness. He has been often compared in this regard with Heinrich Heine, but with striking injustice. There is no sort of relation between the bitter expatriated nomad, Heine, who made the world responsible for his misery, and repaid his injuries with the most blighting and withering sarcasm, and the genial, affectionate Daudet, lover of his country, center of the dearest domestic ties, whose sarcasm was rooted in his exquisite and only too acute sensibility, and

was ever tempered with smiles. Daudet was an omnivorous reader. His knowledge was vast and precise. He read rapidly and methodically, assimilating all with marvelous promptitude. Here, as elsewhere, his love of truth preserved him from prejudice, renewing ever his vigorous logic.

From his earliest youth Daudet was noted for his kind heart, goodness, benevolence—his large and generous humanity. Contempt and scorn he regarded as the grossest forms of ignorance:

"Whether it was a man of our own circle with whom he was brought into contact, a writer, an artist, an invalid, a workman encountered by chance, or a beggar on the road, if in need of help, my father, with his genial kindness and exquisite goodness, never failed to discover what was oppressing him, and to win his heart. He inspired that implicit, divine confidence which comes from the joy of being comprehended. How many are burdened with secrets which they dare not communicate! How many, meeting only egotism and selfishness, feel themselves alone in the world. Of all these he was the friend."

When his existence was harrowed by his sad malady, these characteristics became more and more pronounced. Often a prisoner in his house, his door was thrown wide open. He gathered to him all the wretched, and listened patiently to their stories of distress. No one ever appealed to him in vain, or left him without having been cheered, encouraged, and uplifted. "In his outbursts of tenderness, nothing seemed to him too difficult. He defied the implacability of destiny! In his eyes, every wrong might be righted, every vice was remediable. For every fault he sought an excuse. In his simple life, open to the day, may be found the most convincing arguments in favor of human liberty."

A'phonse Daudet always had a great penchant for books of travel and adventure. Napoleon was one of his heroes, and he was familiar with all the details of his campaigns. In speaking of this tumultuous and restless nineteenth century, he maintained that it was dominated by two types, that of Bonaparte and that of Hamlet; the latter, prince not only of Denmark but of the interior life; the former, source of high deeds and daring enterprises.

Among his contemporaries there were two whom he regarded as representatives of their opposite ideals, Stanley, the man of action, and George Meredith, the thoughtful and laborious recluse. He delighted in Stanley's books, and read them incessantly. Moreover, when the daring traveler was attacked, he defended him with conviction, maintaining that, so far from being cruel, he was the most just and merciful, as well as the most tenacious of conquerors. His son thus describes their meeting, during Alphonse Daudet's visit to England:

"At last, at the house of a mutual friend in London, he encountered the object of his admiration. And what a spectacle it was to watch these two distinguished men, who understood each other so well, seated upon a low canopy in affectionate intercourse. It is impossible that a being for whom my father felt such a sincere friendship could have been wicked. He considered him one of the finest types of the Anglo-Saxon race, cosmopolitan in his lucidity of mind, courage, straightforward integrity, and sound judgment."

The younger Daudet describes also in animated terms their visit to George Meredith's charming cottage at Bon Hill, concluding with an eloquent eulogy of the English author, the Hamlet of Daudet's imagination. "The image of your features, glorious and pure," he writes, "is never separated from those that I weep, because they have lost their perishable form."

Alphonse Daudet was exceedingly patriotic, loving his country with idolatry. The war of 1870, in which he took part, was for him a terrible revelation, and he could never reconcile himself to the inglorious defeat which France then suffered. His son says that he reproached his father for not having written a full account of their disasters, a work of which only a witness would have been capable. "Such a recital would not have inspired and ele-

vated our people," the novelist answered. "A warlike country like ours needs to hear, not the dirges of defeat, but the clarion chant of victory."

This reply was characteristic. To elevate and inspire others—this was the supreme object for which Alphonse Daudet lived and worked.

MR. GLADSTONE'S ONLY PUBLISHED POEM.

M R. GLADSTONE, at one time or another in his long life, has tried his hand at almost every form of serious literature. With the exception of novel-writing and the drama, he has dipped into everything—theology, history, criticism, philosophy, and even poetry. His attempts at poetry, so far as known, were all made in the early years of his career; and while it is said that he wrote a great deal of verse, only one of his poems, if his translations of Horace be not considered, has ever been published. According to the London *To-day* he showed these poems to his friends alone and had the discretion to keep them out of print. The one poem that he gave to the public appeared in a magazine now long since forgotten. The verses were written in 1836, three years before his first book on "Church and State," being thus really his first public literary effort. At this time Mr. Gladstone was in political retirement with the passing of the Peel cabinet, in which he had held the position of Under Secretary for the Colonies. What circumstances may have led to the writing of his poem and to its publication are not stated.

ON AN INFANT WHO WAS BORN, WAS BAPTIZED, AND DIED ON THE SAME DAY.

I.

How wast thou made to pass
By short transition from the womb
Unto that other darkness of thy tomb,
O Babe, O Brother to the grass?
For like the herb, so thou art born
At early morn;
And thy little life has flowed away
Before the flowing day;
Thy willing soul hath struggled and is free;
And all of thee that dieth
A white and waxy image lieth
Upon the knee.

II.

"Oh, whither hast thou fled
From the warm, joyous world removed?"
Might one of old have questioned
Of his dear and dead,
Panting and straining for relief
Unto a passion and hopeless grief:
"Whither, O thou in vain beloved,
Whither hast thou borne
The smiles and kisses that were gathered up
In thee, for her that bore thee now forlorn
As sweets in the wild rose cup
Before the morn?"

III.

"Is that thy feeble cry
But just beyond the threshold of the grave,
Art thou yet waiting in the voiceless hall
Of Dis, or hear'st the morning waters fall?
Thou canst not sure be nigh
When mad and shrieking spirits rave,
Or dost thou slumber take
By deep glassy and translucent lake
Through a chill exhaustless night
Apart from wo, yet senseless of delight?"

IV.

There was no audible reply,
Only a faint far echo to that cry
Of natural yearning. But our task
Is lighter far; and when we ask,
"Is all thy fate as dark
As in the pall upon the limbs?
Is there no Sun above, no Savior ark,
That on the black sea swims
And bears the children, loved of God and blest
Unto the land of rest?"
We hear a voice from the high seats of bliss,
That answers, "Yes."

V.

Yes! Narrow was the space
Whereby life ran its hurried race
Like one affrighted by the far-off glare
Of the world's pleasures and alarms;
That from the sin, the sorrow and the care
Fled to seek shelter in the arms
Of his first father and had rest
Upon his breast.

VI.

Oh! joy that on that narrow space
There is no spot of actual sin,
No burning trace
As where evil thoughts have been.
Thou hast not known how hard it is to kill
The inveterate strength of self-desire,
To quench the smoldering and tenacious fire;
And never did thy unexpanded will
Gather up conscious energies to move
Against the God of love.

VII.

The volume of this life was soon unrolled,
But the hours of thy small earthly store;
Altho no more
Than might be numbered at the dawn of sense
By a child's first intelligence,
Yet were their single moments told
To them that stood around
By a faint moaning sound,
Repeated with that laboring breath
That ever ushers death,
Instead of the serene and soft pulsation
Of an infant's respiration.

VIII.

How small the tribute then of human pain
The eternal wisdom did disdain
Thy migrant spirit should be bound to pay
Upon its way
Unto fruition of the immortal prize;
Purchased for thee by rain of scalding tears,
By agony indign,
By woes how heavier far than thine
Through more protracted years
And deeper sighs.

IX.

One evening thou wert not,
The next thou wert, and wert in bliss,
And wert in bliss forever, and is this
So desolate a lot
To be the theme of unconsol'd sorrow,
Because thy first to-morrow
Thou wert ordained a vest to wear,
Not made like ours of clay,
But woven with the beams of clearest day,
A cherub fair?

X.

For on that one, that well-spent morn,
Unconscious thou were borne
To wash the baptismal stream,
To gain thy title to the glorious name
Which doth unbar the gates of Paradise,
And thou wert taken home
Before the peril that might come
By thy parents' human pride
In thy soft beaming eye;
But not before
Their blessings on thee they might pour
And pray that, if so early bloomed the tide,
Yet God might speed thee on thy path
Through the void realms of death,
And Christ reserve thee in His bosom peace
Till pain and sin shall cease;
Till earthly shows shall fly, and they
Shall wake to life with thee from clay.

XI.

We live amid the tumult and the stress
Of a fierce eddying fight,
And to our mortal sight
Our fate is trembling in the balances;
And even it hath seemed
The Tempter at the nether scale
Might over love prevail;
But thy faith can never fail.
Thou art redeemed;
The shadowy forms of doubt and change
Athwart thy tranquil fate no more may range,
Nor speck its lucid path
With tokens and remembrances of death.

XII.

Then flow, ye blameless tears awhile,
A little while ye may:

The natural cravings to beguile
This task is yours; with you
Shall peace be borne anew
And sorrow glide away.
Oh, happy they in whose remembered lot
There should appear no darker spot
Than this of holy ground;
This, where, within the short and narrow bound,
From morn to eventide
In quick successive train,
An infant lived and died
And lived again.

To-day pronounces this poem an important human document, a confession of Mr. Gladstone's early religious and theological trend of mind. In contemplating death as he is doing now in Hawarden, he is too much of a theologian to be a poet. These verses are destitute of all suggestion of the imagery that he employed in his splendid speeches.

DISCOVERY OF ANOTHER "IMMORTAL" POET.

ABOUT one year and a half ago (October 29, 1897), Rev. T. E. Brown, the son of a Manx clergyman but a resident of Ramsey, England, was suddenly stricken with death while delivering an address to the boys of Clifton College. Since that event, some of the ablest critics of England have made discovery that the Rev. T. E. Brown was a poet of surpassing merit. *The Spectator*, *The New Review*, *The Speaker*, have sounded his praises forth with a certain undertone of surprise that fame had been so slow in crowning him. Now *The Quarterly Review* openly dubs him one of the immortals. We quote from its review of his books ("Fo'e'sle Yarns: including Betsy Lee and other Poems," 1881; "The Doctor and Other Poems," 1887; "The Manx Witch and Other Poems," 1889; "Old John and Other Poems," 1893) the following introductory words:

"It is at some hazard, and not without a feeling of temerity, that a critic can adventure the opinion that poems which have not yet attained a high degree of popularity belong to that class which posterity will not let die. And if the question were one of comparative excellence, caution would be still more desirable. But there are certain marks which (apart from all comparison) characterize poetry that will last; above all, this mark, that the thing said or sung shall not have been said or sung before, and shall be also interesting—that it shall touch the heart. We think that this mark of permanence belongs to Mr. Brown's poetry; he depicts for us a region that has never been depicted before; he shows us men and women different from any men or women that poet or novelist has hitherto shown—but men and women real, full of life, natural in spite of many peculiarities and oddities, strong in spite of many weaknesses. Such pictures of life are worth preserving; and the poet himself, in his personal feeling, has also phrases that have never before been rendered in verse; sudden turns, opening out in a few words unexpected vistas. Individuality stamps the lyrics in these volumes as well as the narrative poems; and this (provided it be a worthy individuality) is the surest guaranty of permanence."

Three fourths of Mr. Brown's poems, we are told, are narrative poems, the first of which, "Betsy Lee," is also the most popular. Satisfactory quotations from a narrative poem are always difficult to make, unless made at considerable length; but the flavor of "Betsy Lee" is suggested in the following lines, which the critic terms his "favorite passage" in the poem—a conversation between Tom Baynes and his sweetheart after Tom has disconcerted his rival by turning the teat of the cow he is milking so as to drench the rival's fine new waistcoat:

"Aw, Tom!" says Betsy; "Aw, Betsy," say I;
"Whatever!" says she, and she begun to cry.
"Well," I says, "it's no wonder o' me,
With your ransy-tansy-tissimitee."

Here is a passage from "The Manx Witch," in which a chal-

lenge passes with "Homeric plainness and directness" between two miners seeking to win the same woman:

"You'll give me satisfaction,"
Says Harry, "eh?" And the where and the when
And the how. "At the mouth of the Dragon's den,"
Says Jack; "let's see which 'll put the other
Down the ould pit, and finish this bother.
For you know d— well whichever 'll lose
That bout," says Jack, "he'll have a long snooze
Down there, he will. Now then, d'vee see!
It's death! it's death 'twixt you and me!
Will you try the fall, my blooming boss?
Hands on it, Harry!" So it's hands it was.

The poems written in Manx dialect are pervaded with humor, which is supplanted when Mr. Brown writes in English by a philosophical depth of thought and by a lyrical power and simplicity of expression. Here is an instance from a poem entitled "Old John":

In a fair garden
I saw a mother playing with her child,
And with that chance beguiled
I could not choose but look
How she did seem to harden
His little soul to brook
Her absence—reconciled
With after boon of kisses
And sweet irrational blisses.
For she would hide
With loveliest grace
Of seeming craft,
Till he was aware of none beside
Himself upon the place:
And then he laughed.
And then he stood a space
Disturbed, his face
Prepared for tears;
And half acknowledged fears
Met would-be courage, balancing
His heart upon the spring
Of flight—till, waxing stout,
He gulped the doubt.
So up the pleached alley
Full swift he ran;
Whence she,
Not long delayed,
Rushed forth with joyous sally
Upon her little man.
Then was it good to see
How each to other made
A pretty rapture of discovery.
Blest child! blest mother! blest the truth ye taught—
God seeketh us, and yet He would be sought.

Here is a charming little lyric from one of the Manx poems, "Captain John and Captain Hugh," in which the hero records the fact that his sweetheart has kissed him:

Star of hope, star of love,
Did you see it from Heaven above?
Love was sleeping, hope was fled—
Did you see what Nelly did?
I know it was only the back of my head—
But did you, did you, did you, did you,
Did you see what Nelly did?
You're my witness, star of joy!
Was it a girl that kissed a boy?

Was it a boy that kissed a girl?
Oh, happy worl'!
I don't know!
Let it go!
I thought I'd have died, and nobody missed me,
But Nelly has kissed me! Nelly has kissed me!

Come down! come down!
Put on your brightest crown!
Slip in with me among the clover.
Now tell me all about it—I'm her lover!
Did you see it? Are you sure?
Is she lovely? Is she pure?
Smell these buds: Is that her breath?
Will I love her until death?
Ah, little star! I see you smiling there
Upon heaven's lowest stair!
I know, I know
It's time to go;
But I'm only waiting till you have blessed me,
For Nelly has kissed me! Nelly has kissed me!

The *Quarterly Review's* critic closes with the following brief poem entitled "Indwelling," which shows the poet in a still different and more serious vein:

If thou couldst empty all thyself of self,
Like to a shell dishabited,
Then might He find thee on the Ocean shelf,
And say: "This is not dead,"
And fill thee with Himself instead.

"But thou art all replete with very thou,
And hast such shrewd activity,
That, when He comes, He says, "This is now
Unto itself—'twere better let it be:
It is so small and full, there is no room for Me."

"The Most Wonderful Pianist Before the Public."—Moritz Rosenthal reappeared in London the other day for the first time since the serious illness which prevented his tour two years ago and again last year to this country. Judging from the London notices of his concert, he has fully regained his powers, and these, in the opinion of *The Westminster Gazette* (London), surpass those of any other pianist now before the public, and the intimation is made that they may equal those of any pianist that ever was before the public. Says *The Gazette*:

"Mr. Rosenthal, who gave another exhibition of his extraordinary powers at St. James's Hall yesterday afternoon, may be described, perhaps without any exaggeration, as the most wonderful of all the wonderful pianists before the public to-day. Listening to him, indeed, it is difficult to believe that any pianist who has ever lived—whether Liszt, Rubinstein, von Bülow, or any other—can ever have surpassed his attainments in the matter of execution and technic. His difficulty seems merely to be to obtain compositions which will sufficiently tax his amazing abilities in this regard. Works with which ordinary virtuosi are quite content he seems to find quite inadequate to his needs, with the result that all sorts of show pieces, quite worthless as music, but admirable as exercises in keyboard gymnastics, are pressed into service in addition. Of such were the compositions by Davidoff and Liszt introduced in yesterday's program. On the other hand, it would be entirely a mistake to suppose that because he favors, for purposes of his own, pieces of this order, Rosenthal is any less acceptable an interpreter of works more worthy of his powers. On the contrary, it is difficult to imagine performances of Beethoven and Chopin finer in any respect than those he placed to his credit yesterday, while in the Brahms-Paganini Variations, virtuosity and musical insight and feeling were combined in a manner no less remarkable."

During May, Rosenthal is to play in Italy and Switzerland, and after a summer's rest he will return to America for an extended tour.

Art Requirements in South Africa.—A story is current in Rome, according to *The St. James's Gazette*, to the effect that a sculptor in that city, in an evil hour for his reputation as an artist, undertook some time ago to produce "to order" a bronze statue of President Krüger. He had a trying experience:

"One of the conditions imposed was that no liberties were to be taken with Oom Paul. He was to be represented in all his native heaviness of features with the fidelity which Oliver Cromwell exacted; and for personal decoration he was to be depicted in his ordinary frock-coat and tall hat. The most trying stipulation of all was, however, that made by Mme. Krüger. Oom Paul's amiable lady (whose health, we hope, is by this time completely recovered) insisted that the crown of the hat should be made concave so that it might catch and hold rain-water for the refreshment of little birds! The artist has succeeded in doing the bidding of his patrons; and the statue is now almost ready for transmission to Pretoria. This concern for the welfare of the harmless little birds is creditable to Mme. Krüger's maternal heart, but humanitarianism of this kind is certainly not conducive to the production of a keen esthetic sense."

THACKERAY'S "Vanity Fair" has been dramatized by Lorimer Stoddard, son of Richard Henry Stoddard, the poet, and the play will be produced in this country in the coming season by Mrs. Maddern Fiske. It will be remembered that it was Mr. Stoddard who dramatized "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," in which Mrs. Fiske has been playing the title rôle with great success.

SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

POSSIBLE PASSAGE OF THE EARTH
THROUGH A NEBULA.

SO-CALLED "dark days," of which a number of remarkable ones have been recorded in the earth's history, have usually been explained by the presence of thick smoke due to great forest fires, accompanied perhaps by some peculiar atmospheric conditions. There have always been a few, however, who have thought that this hypothesis does not furnish a complete explanation, and the observations made on a series of such days that occurred in Siberia in 1896 seems to strengthen the case of these doubters. If we are to believe official reports, the dense smoke that covered half the continent of Asia on those days was due neither to fires nor to volcanic eruptions. It is the opinion of M. Adam Rzyszczewski, who describes the phenomenon in the *Bulletin de la Société Astronomique*, Paris, that the earth at that time was passing through what he calls a great cosmic cloud—perhaps a gaseous nebula. The only trouble is that in this case it would seem that the whole earth ought to have been equally plunged in the smoky substance, but he explains ingeniously the fact that it was not, as will be seen at the end of his statement, most of which we translate below:

"After collecting a large number of minute details, I am now able to present to the Astronomical Society an account of an immense cosmic cloud that covered the whole of Siberia during eleven consecutive days of the month of July, 1896.

"All the inhabitants of Siberian towns were astonished, at this time, to find themselves enveloped in a thick smoke, containing a large quantity of water-vapor. It was generally believed that there were enormous forest fires, but despatches from the government officials showed that there were no such fires anywhere. Besides, they indicated that everywhere was the same extraordinary smoke . . . over a territory more than 7,000 kilometers [4,300 miles] in extent, from Samara to Chita, and from the Sayan Mountains to the Polar circle. The whole Asiatic continent was plunged for eleven days in thick smoke. The odor of carbon was very evident, and the sun's disk appeared like a red ball of fire; I looked at it easily through a field-glass without the least fear for my sight. A perfect calm reigned in nature, but the upper layers of the smoke glided quite rapidly over the sun's disk, borne by a northwest wind. Now, since no forests were on fire anywhere, and since there was no volcanic eruption in northern Asia, and since from Samara to Chita the phenomenon presented everywhere the same peculiarities, we must conclude, it seems to me, that this was a cosmic phenomenon. Could we have been passing, for instance, through a gaseous nebula or the tail of a comet?

"According to the stories of farmers, whenever the grass was cut during the smoky period, the hay seemed to be poisoned, and the sheep that ate it died by hundreds.

"A workman who was bleaching wax in the sun found that, after the smoke had disappeared, the wax was completely red, and that it kept this color even after being melted.

"A civil engineer has recently published a notice on this phenomenon in the Russian *Official Journal*, and he upholds the same hypothesis, namely, that we were passing through a great cosmic cloud whose origin has not yet been explained."

M. Rzyszczewski tells us that according to the testimony of travelers, the smoke extended to the tops of the highest mountains—an additional evidence that it was not due to terrestrial causes, for forest-fire smoke, according to him, lies low, so that one can see over it from a mountain peak. Travelers were completely lost in the gloom, and a white tent could not be seen at a distance of a few hundred feet. In closing, the writer says:

"If the earth was then passing through a gaseous nebula, we must suppose that this nebula had for a vast distance a plane boundary, and that, in turning, the earth plunged Siberia into the cloud during the day while at night it emerged into the clear space; for the nights were fine, all the stars were visible, and

there was not the least cloud or smoke. But scarcely had the day dawned when the dense smoke returned."

The proof, of course, would be quite conclusive if it could be shown that on the opposite side of the globe, at the same time, the nights were smoky and the days clear; but no evidence of this kind has apparently been sought.—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

OUR FIGHTING-MACHINES AND THOSE
WHO RUN THEM.

IT is pointed out by Park Benjamin, the eminent mechanical expert, in a recent newspaper article, that the modern battleship is an untried mechanism. He compares it to a "huge steel honeycomb," with a multitude of compartments, which have to be protected by water-tight doors, and are jammed full of all manner of complicated machinery for running the ship, hoisting ammunition, training guns, lighting and ventilating the ship, and doing the thousand and one things by mechanical means that were once performed by human labor. He points out the great liability to disarrangement under these conditions, and leaves the general impression that the final behavior of our ships in action against a Spanish naval force of equal power is still an unsolved problem. To this it is replied by an editorial writer in *The Engineering News*, New York, that if the modern battleship is a machine, our ships are at least manned by mechanics, who are competent to run machinery. Says this writer:

"Admitting that what he [Mr. Benjamin] says is largely true, he omits mention of one important and, in fact, controlling factor, and that is the quality of the human agency on board the American war-vessel, which cares for and handles all this machinery, and controls its operation before action and in action.

"In other words, the more complex the fighting mechanism, the greater advantage the American sailor should have, as compared with the Spaniard. It is true that many of Spain's ships have been constructed by one of the best builders of war-ships in the world, and the equipment and armament are all designed upon the latest modern lines. But the English builders hand these ships over to the Spaniards to care for—and to fight. And herein comes the difference. The Spanish people have little or no mechanical skill or experience; they have never given to the world a single invention worthy of note; and they can not even build or repair their own ships, or provide war material, except through the aid of imported machinery and labor. In their hands alone, all this complication of modern war material is liable to rapid deterioration, through sheer ignorance and neglect; and in the heat of battle Spanish officers and men will be very likely to make blunders that may be fatal. Personally, the Biscayan sailor is doubtless brave, but he is some centuries behind the times; and if he were beaten in the wooden monsters of Nelson's time, he will be very apt to fail when handicapped by the necessary handling of innumerable mechanical appliances which he does not and can not understand, as a Yankee machinist or sailor would understand them. The latter has back of him all the traditions of a nation famed for its mechanical skill and inventive genius; and, in a modern sea battle, it is the men behind the guns, in the bowels of the ship, and especially in the conning tower, that will decide the result."

In an article on "War and the Machinist," *The American Machinist* has something of the same kind to say, altho it is speaking more of the constructors than the operators of our great fighting engines. It says:

"We can only rejoice that our highly developed mechanical skill gives us so much decided advantage, and the machine constructor, whether he manages an establishment, bends over a drawing-board, operates a machine tool, or shoves a file, may congratulate himself that his skill is as indispensable in modern warfare as in peaceful pursuits, and, what is more, that experience gained in the present war may lead to such revision of ideas and plans as to make the machinist still more in demand for preparation for the next war, whenever and wherever it may occur."

"It is to be hoped that the time will come when there will be no more wars; but so long as there are to be wars the machinist may console himself with the thought that whatever interference with his business war may cause in some directions is more or less balanced by stimulus imparted to it in others, and that the development of war methods seems likely to call for a still greater proportionate demand for his skilled service."

A CURIOUS FREAK OF NATURE.

A GEOLOGICAL curiosity in the shape of a natural bridge, made not by water, like the famous one in Virginia, but by the cutting action of wind-moved sand, is described in *Science* (April 22) by Arthur Winslow, of Kansas City, Mo. The bridge, which seems never to have been described in print before, is "in southeastern Utah, not far from Moab, on the Grand River, in



FIG. 1.

the midst of the great arid region lying west of the Rocky Mountains and some fifty miles from any railway." Says Mr. Winslow:

"The dimensions of the bridge, as estimated by the photographer, are about 500 feet in span and about 150 feet in height. A comparison of the bridge with figures shown in the original photograph in the right-hand corner and with the tree growth nearby indicates that these dimensions are quite possible.

"The bridge is, in all probability, a monstrous product of wind erosion. The rock appears to be one of the friable Mesozoic sandstones which are widely exposed in this region. Other examples of wind action, such as is illustrated in Fig. 2, were seen by me when traveling through the country, so located that no other cause could be assigned. Strong and prolonged winds are frequent here, as any one who has sojourned in that country can testify to his misery. The sands carried by these winds are whirled about in the depressions of the



FIG. 2.

rocks, and excavate wind pot-holes in the friable sandstones with great rapidity. A wall or slab of such rock is by degrees entirely penetrated, giving rise to the so-called window rocks which are frequently seen in isolated buttes high above the surrounding level. Our natural bridge, I conclude, is simply an extreme or abnormal enlargement of such a 'window.' Possibly some water channel may have assisted in the process, but the view does not indicate this, but shows the bridge to be high above the main water-course. The dimensions of the bridge, or rather the shape of the space covered by it, are also against this idea, as the ordinary channel cut by a stream through rock is deep and narrow."

New Observations on X Rays.—The following discovery, communicated by M. Sagnac to the French Physical Society, is noted in the *Revue Scientifique*, Paris. It says:

"M. Sagnac proves that if the Roentgen rays strike a metallic

surface obliquely there is no perceptible reflection, but the superficial layer transforms them into secondary rays capable of producing photographic impressions, of exciting fluorescent screens, or of discharging electricity. These secondary rays differ from ordinary Roentgen rays in being easily absorbed by aluminum, this absorption giving rise to a new kind of tertiary rays that are still more easily absorbed by this metal. M. Sagnac thinks that we may consider these secondary and tertiary rays as intermediate between the true Roentgen rays and the Lenard rays."

The same number contains an account of some experiments by Tolomei on the influence of the rays on vegetation. Atkinson had been unable to find any such influence. But, says the *Revue*:

"M. Tolomei has reached different conclusions, but they are in no wise incompatible with those of Atkinson. Everything depends on the way in which the experiment is made. M. Tolomei thinks that the action of the rays is identical with that of light. Under their influence the leaves of *Elodea Canadensis*, in water containing carbonic acid, throw off bubbles of gas, just as they do under the influence of light. The rays, like those of ordinary light, retard the absorption of oxygen by *mycoderma aceti*, and the production of carbonic acid by the ferment of beer. They act on certain bacteria like light, but in a less degree."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

REFORM IN AMERICAN CAR-BUILDING.

IT is pointed out by George I. Charlton, assistant general passenger agent of the Chicago and Alton Railroad, in a recent interview, that each passenger on an American railroad now requires a weight of 2,000 pounds for his accommodation, whereas twenty-five years ago 1,000 pounds was sufficient. If the car is not fully occupied, the figures must be proportionately increased. This increase of the ratio of "dead" to "live" weight is due to so-called improvements in car-building, and the substitution of moving hotels for vehicles on our railroads. The result, of course, is a largely increased expenditure on the part of the railroads, not only to build, equip, and keep in order these heavy rolling palaces—worth from \$20,000 to \$25,000 apiece—but to drag them across the country at a high speed. Commenting on these words of Mr. Charlton, *Cassier's Magazine* (May) makes the following editorial remarks:

"There can be no doubt that the insensate competition between the various railway companies is the chief cause of the increase of dead load in passenger trains from half a ton to a ton for each seat in the car. Does one company put on a new 'limited' train, at a minimum cost of \$125,000, with guaranteed hard-wood cabinet finish, real velvet plush for seat-covers, and five-frame Brussels carpet on the floors, then a rival company advertises a 'limited' train equally as choice in its appointments, with the addition of a barber-shop, a bath-room, and a typewriter. Yet there is in reality little demand for any of these luxuries by the public, the sensible portion of which would willingly exchange them all for the one vital necessary of good ventilation, the rarest commodity in American railway traveling. The mere mention of plush, whether a material for seat-covers or as curtains in sleeping-cars, makes all devout sanitarians shiver; no more perfect trap for disease germs was ever devised. The time is sure to come when a new railroad genius will arise and make an end of the game of brag between American general passenger agents. This reformer will probably substitute light and easily cleaned bamboo seats for those now in use; he will probably save a good deal of the money now spent in useless ornamentation and spend it on better ventilation and lighting; and he is likely to design frames and trucks much lighter, and at least as strong and durable, as those which carry the average day-car of the present time. It is possible, too, that he may accomplish a good result by lowering the center of gravity of the prevailing type of passenger-car, thus preventing it from rolling at high rates of speed and obviating the supposed necessity of placing two or three tons of old rails in the floor to keep it steady. As for the sleeping-car, it must be designed *de novo*. Given the interior of a car, with a certain number of cubic feet of space, the problem will be to ap-

portion it so that each passenger may have the greatest possible amount of privacy, comfort, and ventilation. Perhaps a beginning in this direction might be made by first equipping sleeping-cars which are confined to making regular night journeys between fixed points, as, for example, New York and Buffalo or New York and Pittsburg, and *vice versa*."

THE UNKNOWN CAUSE OF EVOLUTION.

WE are no nearer to finding the cause of evolution than we were before Darwin's day, thinks Prof. H. S. Williams, Dana's successor at Yale. There is a steady progress, and species and individuals are only the places where it stops for the moment. They are but eddies in its current—eddies that attract our attention for an instant, but are really as evanescent as the rest of the stream. We can explain, or try to explain, what causes the eddies, but we can not take a single step toward accounting for the stream in which they whirl. Professor Williams continues (*Science*, April 26):

"Undoubtedly Darwin, writing the 'Origin of Species,' thought he had discovered, in Natural Selection, the chief cause of this evolution, and evolutionists have since been following his lead. But a calm review of the facts in the case must convince us that we are no nearer finding the cause of evolution than we were before Darwin. In explaining, so far as we have, the origin of species, we have been discovering the relations which natural selection, isolation, and other so-called 'factors of evolution' bear to the production of those *temporary vortices in the path of evolution* which we call '*individuals*' and '*species*'. The method of action of these 'factors' is by inducing the repetition of favorable steps of variation, swinging them back into cycles of reproduction, and thus making species where favorable conditions exist; in other words, the method is by establishing the habits or laws of heredity within organisms.

"It is the recognition of the evolution principle as fundamental that puts us on the right path of discovery. What we have to account for is not the evolution, but the haltings of evolution in the various stages of cell, individual, and species.

"Given material particles, in motion, in a resisting medium, and vortices are explainable; but no amount of change in the medium is capable of accounting for the initiation of motion in particles normally at rest."

Conduction of Electricity.—The following answer to a correspondent who wants to know whether a tube or a rod will convey the most electricity, is given by the editor of *The Scientific American*. The correspondent says: "Our text-books state that electricity resides merely on the surface of a body. According to that theory, the teacher holds that the quantity would be the same, while some of the pupils think that, as there is an outer and an inner surface to a common tube, the tube would convey the most. Would not a tube be the same if cut and rolled out, as a plate, it having two surfaces? Or is the theory given in our text-books false?" The editor says in reply: "Your people seem to be talking about different things without knowing it. An electric current, as from a battery or electric-light dynamo, flowing through a wire uses all the metal inside and outside. A tube will not carry this as well as a solid rod of same size. Far from it. But an electric charge, as from rubbed paper, catkin, or a Holtz machine, is only on the surface of the metallic conductor, where it is held by the insulation, since it is self-repellent, and therefore only a thin layer of metal is needed to hold it. Cover a non-conductor with tinfoil and it will hold as heavy a charge as if it were a solid ball. Lightning acts in the same way, and in its awful speed does not penetrate the metal rod over which it rushes. A tube or small wire is usually better than a heavy rod for a lightning conductor, tho this is not the whole reason why."

A Magnetic Island.—"It has been pretended," says the *Revue Scientifique*, "that when ships approach mountains that contain masses of magnetic iron, they experience an attraction that they find it difficult to resist. A proof of this has just been

given, and that, too, near the shores of Germany. *Ciel et Terre* tells us that the well-known isle of Bornholm, situated in the Baltic and belonging to Denmark, acts like a huge magnet. Altho the magnetic force of the island is not so great as to draw out the nails from approaching ships, as is told in the old stories of magnetic mountains, nevertheless the attraction possessed by the rocks of the island has consequences that are often disagreeable for ships that pass near by. Especially does the island exert such an influence on the magnetic needle of the compass that the course of the ship may be considerably altered by it. This effect is noticeable within a radius of 15 kilometers [9 miles] around the island. The rocky reef situated just beyond Bornholm has similar magnetic properties."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST*.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

IN the trolley system of Dresden, as described by inspector Von Stobrawa in the *Elektrotechnische Zeitschrift*, the trolley-wheel is absent, contact with the overhead wire being made by a light, slightly bowed horizontal bar that is pressed upward against it. It takes six to eight weeks to wear out one of these bars, which are made of aluminum. Experience in this and other German cities is said to have demonstrated the superiority of this system to the one ordinarily used.

THE prevalent idea that slow eating is very favorable to digestion is largely fallacious, says *The Journal of Mental and Nervous Diseases*. "The important point is not that we eat slowly or fast, but that when we do eat we chew with energy. Of course, where the haste is due to some mental anxiety, this may injuriously inhibit the secretions. Slow eating begets a habit of simply mumbling the food without really masticating it, while the hurried eater is inclined to swallow his food before proper mastication. Hence, hurried eating is bad, but rapid mastication is advantageous. It concentrates our energies on the act in question, and hence more thoroughly accomplishes it. Moreover, energetic chewing stimulates the secretion of saliva in the most favorable manner. These various points are so commonly misunderstood, at least by the laity, that they demand our frequent attention."

"THE facts collected by Lombroso," says Helen Zimmern in *Appleton's Popular Science Monthly*, April, "place beyond all doubt the intimate connection between crime and mental derangements which has so long been suspected to exist. Madmen and criminals belong to the same family; not in the sense of the vulgar and unthinking expression that all criminals are mad, tho the everyday experience in the police courts puts it beyond doubt that many are actually deranged, but in the sense that both classes are in a similar pathological state, which manifests itself on the one hand in lunacy, or the other in crime. This position is rendered still stronger by the revelations of genealogical statistics, which reveal the heredity through long generations of criminal tendencies, as they do of insanity, and alternations of criminals and madmen, in the same or successive generations."

TELEGRAPH OPERATORS IN THE MILITARY SERVICE.—With a desire to fix the official status of military telegraphers, Representative Belknap of Chicago has a plan, says *The Western Electrician*, Chicago, for organizing the telegraph branch of the military service into an officered department, having rank and prestige with the medical corps. For years it has been the grief of the old-time military telegraphers who served in the Civil War that after hostilities ended they were sent back to civil life with no recognition whatever of their difficult and perilous work. They were regarded simply as civilian hired men, and, altho what they did was of far more importance than many actions which brought promotion and honors to officers, nobody ever heard of it. The ordinary pension rules did not apply to them, and do not to this day, for they have never been given military status. The old operators for years have chafed under this state of things, and now that army fighting appears imminent once again, the younger generation of telegraphers is likewise interested. Mr. Belknap, expressing hearty sympathy with the matter, has taken the question before the committee on military affairs, of which he is a member, and, altho the present situation makes such a measure improper of entertainment, it will be called forward as soon as an actual condition of war exists."

THOMAS A. EDISON writes as follows to one of the editors of *Popular Science News* who had asked him whether lightning-rods really furnish any security to buildings: "There is no doubt whatever that the lightning-rods are a source of great protection when buildings are properly equipped with them. In doing this it is necessary to have metal of good conductivity, and a perfect connection with the earth at the bottom of the rod. If you will refer to a book published by Sir William Snow Harris, who first introduced lightning-rods in the British navy and mercantile marine, you will find this subject discussed at length. Before the introduction of lightning-rods in the British navy, disasters at sea were quite frequent, and the subject of protecting their ships from this element of danger presented itself in a very serious light to British naval officers. When Harris proposed equipping these ships with lightning-rods, he was almost alone in the belief that they would afford protection such as was desired. After a great deal of trouble he succeeded in having them adopted, since which I do not think there has been a single serious disaster from lightning in the British navy, which is conclusive that Harris's theory was correct. The same applies to buildings of an inflammable nature erected on land; and when these are properly supplied with a sufficient number of lightning-rods, dependent upon their size and the extent of ground covered by them, I believe they are absolutely safe from all danger."

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

GEORGE MULLER'S IMMORAL YOUTH.

THE wonderful story of Rev. George Müller's benefactions (see LITERARY DIGEST, April 2) is well known in many lands—his expenditure of over seven million dollars, received without any application by him for aid except that made in prayer to his Creator. Less well known is the story of Müller's youth, and of the gross immoralities that preceded his conversion. Mr. Stead, in *The Review of Reviews* (London), tells of Müller's boyhood and of his reformation in the following words:

"If ever there was a youth who seemed predestined to end his days in a convict prison, George Müller was that lad. He seemed to be a born thief. He went astray, if not from the cradle, speaking lies and stealing money, at least from the days when he put off petticoats and wore breeches. He himself tells us, with characteristic frankness, in the very first page of his delightful autobiography, which is far more interesting even than Bunyan's 'Grace Abounding for the Chief of Sinners,' that he was an habitual thief before he was ten years old. And, mark you, this was none of the petty larceny of the orchard or the cupboard; it was deliberate, systematic stealing of money. He began by falsifying the little accounts he had to render to his father as to the way in which he spent his pocket-money; he went on to rob his father of the money he collected as taxes. 'Before I was ten years old, I repeatedly took of the government money which was entrusted to my father, and which he had to make up.' He was detected at last, being caught with the stolen money under his foot in his shoe; but altho he was soundly flogged, the only lesson he learned from his beating was not to be such a fool as to be found out next time.

"John Bunyan, poor soul, in the excessive tenderness of his Puritan conscience, accused himself of being the chief of sinners on account of his love for bell-ringing, the playing at bowls, and a perverse habit of profanity. Compared with the lad George Müller, John Bunyan in his worst estate was a perfect saint. On the day his mother died, George, being then fourteen years old, sat playing at cards till two o'clock on Sunday morning; and while she lay dead in the house, he spent Sunday in the tavern, and scandalized the little village by staggering half-drunk through the streets. He was then only a boy of fourteen. On the next day he began to receive the religious instruction preparatory for confirmation; three or four days before taking his first communion he was 'guilty of gross immorality.' The very day before he was confirmed, when he went into the vestry to confess his sins to the clergyman, he cheated him out of eleven twelfths of the fee which his father had given him to pay the parson. After his confirmation he continued to lead a dissipated, dishonest life. When he was sixteen his father entrusted him with the collection of a considerable sum of money from persons who were in his debt. 'My habits soon led me to spend a considerable part of this money, giving receipts for different sums, yet leading my father to suppose I had not received them.'

"No one can be surprised after this on learning that the young scoundrel was landed in jail before he was seventeen years of age. He went off on a spree one fine day, spent six days in Magdeburg 'in much sin,' emptied his purse at Brunswick, where he had a sweetheart, had to sacrifice his best clothes to meet his hotel bill at one place, and then, when trying to bilk the landlord at Wolfbuttel, he was arrested and clapped into jail as a rogue and vagabond. There he was kept under lock and key for three weeks, and as usual came out a good deal worse than he went in. After he came out his father flogged him harder than ever, but the lad was incorrigible. But while he lied and cheated and drank, and was 'habitually guilty of great sins,' he did begin seriously to apply himself to his books.

"For this young reprobate was designed by his father for the Christian ministry, chiefly, it would appear, in order that when he retired from the Excise he might find a comfortable retreat in his son's parsonage. Not even a thirteen-weeks' illness produced any impression on him, beyond leading him to read Klopstock's works without weariness. When he recovered he went on his swindling way, narrowly escaping a much more serious imprisonment for a barefaced fraud. When he was twenty his debauchery

again laid him up on a sick bed. When he recovered he forged his father's name, pawned his books, and set off on a tour in Switzerland with some fellow students as racketty as himself. How utterly lost he was at this time to even the rudimentary sentiments of honor and honesty may be judged from this confession: 'I was in this journey like Judas, for having the common purse I was a thief. I managed so that the journey cost me but two thirds of what it cost my friends.'

"Such was George Müller when, in the year 1825, he was studying at the University of Halle, one among nine hundred young men who as divinity students were all permitted to preach, altho, as he remarked afterward, 'I have reason to believe not nine of them feared the Lord.' If they, the other eight hundred and ninety, were like George Müller this judgment is probably not uncharitable. He says that altho according to custom he took the Lord's Supper twice a year, he had no Bible and had not read it for years. 'I had never heard the Gospel preached up to the beginning of November, 1825. I had never met with a person who told me that he meant by the help of God to live according to the Holy Scriptures.' Nevertheless he was ill at ease, and when, in November, 1825, a comrade told him of a Saturday evening meeting at a friend's house where they read the Bible, sang, prayed, and read a printed sermon, 'it was to me as if I had found something after which I had been seeking all my life'—which is peculiar, to say the least of it.

"Nevertheless, most things are peculiar in this odd world, and we must take things as they are. George Müller went to this Saturday evening prayer-meeting. At that time in Prussia 'no regular meetings for expounding the Scriptures were allowed unless an ordained clergyman was present,' so they only read a chapter and a printed sermon. But that night's meeting changed the whole of George Müller's life. How, he frankly confesses he does not exactly know. He had never seen any one on their knees before in prayer. The prayers made a deep impression on him. 'I was happy, tho if I had been asked why I was happy I could not have clearly explained it.' When he returned home he does not remember whether he so much as knelt in prayer. 'This I know, that I lay peaceful and happy in my bed.' He seems to have had very little sorrow for sin. He certainly had none of John Bunyan's agony of remorse. He says: 'I obtained joy without any deep sorrow of heart and with scarcely any knowledge. That evening was the turning-point of my life.'"

The Pulpit and the War.—A few weeks ago (April 9) we reprinted from *The Outlook* a somewhat inaccurate copy of a letter of instructions issued by Bishop Paret (Prot. Episc.), of Maryland, to the clergymen of his diocese, stating that they were expected to keep their sermons "free from all questions of war or of national politics." *The Church Union* (undenom., New York) reprints the letter and contrasts it with a circular from the Evangelical Alliance, entitled "Manual for Citizens," as follows:

"We contrast these two utterances by way of lesson. The bishop's plan is how not to do it. If the clergy in the past had followed advice like this of the bishop, a very large part of the grandest work which has been done in this world would have been unaccomplished, and the good work which has been done would not have been done half as well. Within little over a century, two of the most glorious labors of all history have been wrought—the abolition of slavery in the British dominions, and the Civil War, which ended slavery in America. We venture to assert that, without the pulpit, neither of these would have been accomplished. There were other noble agencies at work, but among them all a first place is due to the Christian pulpit. Indeed, there were many preachers who followed the way of the bishop, and lifted neither hand nor voice to help; but their memory, in these respects, is not fragrant.

"In the charge there is the old mistake of the sharp sundering of the religious and the secular. This is a favorite blunder of ecclesiastics—of the men who lay stress on wearing a different garb from that which ordinary humanity wears. This little point emblems their general idea. A minister is a man by himself, and religion a thing by itself. The opinion that is forging to the front to-day is that the minister is an ordinary man, but he ought to be a bright, good one, and that religion pertains to everything that is; that, if you shut out religion from anything, you spoil

religion; and if you shut out anything from religion, you spoil the thing. Everywhere or nowhere goes religion, like the great God whom it serves."

DR. HERRICK JOHNSON'S DEFENSE OF DR. MCGIFFERT.

REV. DR. HERRICK JOHNSON, of the Chicago Theological Seminary, a Presbyterian institution, contributes a two-page article to *The Evangelist* (Presbyterian, New York), in defense of Dr. McGiffert, the author of "The Apostolic Age" (see LITERARY DIGEST, February 26). Dr. Johnson takes pains to say at the outset that there are many points made by Dr. McGiffert in the work named upon which he differs with him *in toto*. "They do not seem warranted," he says, by what the author terms "our sources." And further:

"He carries the Son of God's voluntarily humbling himself, in his incarnation, to an extent of surrender of attributes hardly in keeping with such Scripture as we have bearing on this confessedly mysterious doctrine of Kenosis. His view of election is distinctly lower than the historic Confessional view (p. 44). His view of inspiration, as already indicated, is not the inerrant 'original manuscript' view. He makes, here and there, acknowledgment of error in the writers of the New Testament (pp. 33, 47, 52, note); and certainly tends to destroy the ordinary Christian confidence in the Word of God, by leaving these mistakes without an explanation; while he nowhere states with clearness what he finds taught in the Apostolic writings concerning the inspiration of the Scriptures. A very serious omission."

But Dr. Johnson then proceeds to take up the charge made against Dr. McGiffert that in his book he sweeps the whole circle of Apostolic thought and finds no one of all the great evangelical doctrines—that the Christ he finds in the Apostolic age is essentially another Christ from the one believed in by the Christian Church. Dr. Johnson thinks that this view would be "utterly repudiated by the author," and he finds no warrant in the book for such a charge. Liberal quotations are made from the book to show that Dr. McGiffert holds to the traditional and orthodox view in regard to the divinity of Christ and His being God manifest in the flesh. It is insisted that Dr. McGiffert "always and everywhere" recognizes the personality of the Holy Spirit and "never refers to Him as an influence or an energy," and that he constantly refers to Christ's resurrection as an unchallengeable fact. On this we quote:

"He speaks of it [the resurrection] as 'marking a crisis in the thought of His disciples' (p. 43). 'His reappearance revived all their old hopes' (p. 41). He refers to the first Corinthian Epistle as 'constituting a source of the first rank,' and he says Paul's 'account of the resurrection' in the fifteenth chapter is 'of indisputable trustworthiness' (p. 38, note). And he quotes Paul as pointing out 'the firm historic basis upon which the belief in Christ's resurrection is founded'; as reminding the Corinthian Christians that 'if Christ is not raised they are still in their sins'; and as making 'the fact of Christ's resurrection absolutely fundamental' (p. 309). Surely this was a resurrection that left the Aramathean's tomb empty on Easter morning. Dr. McGiffert does insist that it was 'a spiritual body' that rose from the dead, but so does Paul. Nothing but a dead body 'was buried' in that sepulchre. A body must come forth from that sepulchre, to constitute a resurrection. But what kind of a body? Not the old 'natural body' of flesh and blood, subject to death and dissolution. But the new 'spiritual body,' freed from every element of decay, with death and dissolution forever impossible. This is Paul's teaching. And Dr. McGiffert simply seeks to reproduce the Apostle's thought."

After some further quotations in support of Dr. McGiffert's orthodoxy, Dr. Johnson concludes as follows:

"It may be said that I misunderstand Dr. McGiffert, misinterpret his belief, misrepresent his position. Well, that has occurred to me as a possibility. So, after reading some parts of his book over and over again, and still reaching the conclusion that on all

the great evangelical doctrines of our church he was true to the historic belief of Christendom, and accepted without doubt or question the Deity of Christ, and of the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, His ascension to heaven, and kindred doctrines, I did what I would have another do to me in like circumstances.—I wrote to him my belief, based upon his book, of his full acceptance of the evangelical faith, and asked him if he could consistently confirm my conclusion. I am not at liberty to make public his letter in reply, but he distinctly authorized me to say that he neither denies nor questions any of these doctrines, and that he is a thoroughgoing evangelical believer, standing squarely on the platform of the inspiration of the Scriptures, 'and the Deity both of Christ and of the Holy Spirit, and accepting unquestioningly the Savior's resurrection and ascension.'

RELIGION OR SCIENCE—WHICH IS BANKRUPT?

"CHRISTIANITY is condemned. What it is necessary to seek is not charity, but justice. But it is science which will make justice. It is science which will inaugurate justice and establish its reign among men. Everything for science!"

This thesis Emile Zola proclaims a hundred times in his latest book, "Paris," and the eminent literary critic, Emile Faguet, in reviewing the novel in the French department of *Cosmopolis*, pauses to examine the basis of Zola's "gospel of science." He recalls that Brunetière some years ago proclaimed the "bankruptcy of science" so far as the advancement of human happiness is concerned, and he thinks that Zola intended to meet Brunetière's attack by announcing in his turn the bankruptcy of religion, especially of the religion of love and charity. M. Faguet proceeds to answer Zola as follows:

"To suppose that Christianity has become bankrupt, it is necessary to admit, by parity of reasoning, that science has likewise become bankrupt. It is not since yesterday that science has existed. It is here, in truth, that we find the source of the error—colossal, in my judgment—of those who hope from science the happiness of mankind. They believe, with a *naïveté* which amazes one, that science was born yesterday. They can not free themselves from this idea. But it is a childish error! Science is of all time. She began with him who invented the plow. She began with him who invented fire. She is prodigiously anterior to Christianity. These gentlemen say: 'From the year 1 till the year 1800, the reign of Christianity; from 1800 to eternity, the reign of science.' But science has existed since man has existed, and Christianity, altogether modern, has not come to interrupt its operations. It occupies itself with a totally different thing, while science, so far as she could, more or less according to circumstances, has continued her work.

"If, then, science has existed from all eternity, from all human eternity, if I may so express myself, one may, in order to know what she *will* do, ask what she *has* done. Has she ever made justice reign among men? Never in her life! Has she ever augmented justice? Never in her life! She has been a human force, and she has created forces—forces useful and forces injurious, the plow and the arrow, the carriage and the ax, the telegraph and the rifle. This is what she has done; this is what she will continue to do. She will increase welfare as well as the means of disturbing it; she will call more human beings to life and she will invent more methods of destroying them. And so forth, indefinitely. And why anything else?

"Science, from a moral point of view, is neutral; that is, she is *nil*. Resembling nature in this respect, she creates forces with perfect indifference toward good and evil. To say that she will create justice is perhaps a phrase of good augury, but just as vain as it would be to say that she will create charity, fraternity, love, or the peace of the soul. These things are perfect strangers to her.

"But those things with which science does not occupy herself, because they don't concern her and it would be absolute waste of time for her to busy herself with them, Christianity, after many other faiths, truly, but better than any others, is occupied with, and it is not occupied with anything else. It has come to say: 'Be wise,

if you like; this will not accomplish any moral progress, but, on the other hand, it will not accomplish immoral progress either; and this causes the world to march, to advance, to modify the entire aspect of things—which you love very much. So be it; be wise. But if you would be happy, try to love one another. There is no other way. And this way is called charity.'

"That is all which Christianity has said. That it has not been sufficiently heeded, and that this inattention has caused failure, is possible. But this does not prove that Christianity is wrong. And to wish to replace it with something that, on the one hand, can live alongside of it in perfect peace, and, on the other hand, can not realize any part of what Christianity has partially realized or at least tried to realize, is simply to be anxious to sustain a loss without any compensation.

"This, in my opinion, is all that it is necessary to say about M. Zola's thesis, which seems to me silliness itself."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

B. FAY MILLS AND THE ALBANY PRESBYTERY.

IT will be remembered that a year or more ago the Rev. B. Fay Mills, who had achieved a wide reputation as an evangelist, made an announcement of a change of views on points of doctrine which made it impracticable and impossible for him to continue his preaching under the same auspices and on the same lines as he had been pursuing before. He then wrote to the presbytery of Albany, to which he had belonged, asking a letter of dismissal to the Rutland Congregational Association. The presbytery appointed a committee to confer with him. The committee advised him to allow his name to remain on the roll of the presbytery. Last December he wrote to the committee asking again "immediate action." But this request was not presented to the presbytery, because, as Mr. Mills says, "the committee did not wish to bring before the presbytery certain issues suggested thereby at that time." On April 14, he sent directly to the presbytery a request in the following form:

"After prayerful thought, with the one desire of promoting the best interests of all concerned, I have concluded that the kindest course on my part, and one that will relieve you from the responsibility of determining certain questions (the avoidance of which seems to be desired by your committee), is to renew my request of last June that my name should be erased from your roll, adding thereto the request that you declare me independent of your jurisdiction on the ground that my views have so changed that they are not in harmony with the standards of the Presbyterian Church. As I wrote your committee, they certainly do not concur with the Westminster Confession, nor with recent official interpretations of it, and I do not think it wise to raise the question whether they are in accord with a more modern exposition of it or not. Will you, therefore, please act at this session in the manner suggested above?

"And now let me express to you my great regard for the Presbyterian Church and its members, and my pain at the sorrow that is caused my friends by my present position. It is one of the hard things necessitated by the limitations of human knowledge and the conditions of progress that such seeming separations as this should become necessary. I long for the day when spiritual fellowship will not be conditioned by theological opinion. I am filled with the greatest gratitude as I think of the confidence bestowed on me in the past by the church of my fathers, and am glad I could honestly devote some of the best years of my life to her service. I never felt so kindly toward her members as I do now. I never realized my obligations to mankind nor the true bands that unite us all as now. I have only the kindest feelings toward all the churches and their members, and I should be rejoiced if I might be of more service to them in the future than I have been in the past. I am only constrained by honesty not to seem to stand for certain theological opinions and customs that do not appear to me to be essential. I expect to preach the best Gospel I know or can discover in what we all believe to have been the spirit of Jesus. And to you, personally and representatively, I extend the assurance of my kindest regard, my best wishes, my

most earnest prayers, and my heartiest cooperation in all efforts for the complete establishment of the reign of truth and love, in which we can work together."

This action of Mr. Mills is made the subject of comment in several of the religious papers. *The Presbyterian Banner* (Pittsburgh) has this to say:

"What the presbytery did with this request, or whether it did anything, we do not know. After what he says concerning the change of opinion he has undergone with respect to the Westminster Confession, and the 'recent official interpretation of it,' there can hardly be any difficulty in dropping his name from the roll of the presbytery. The trouble is not with those who change their opinions and quietly leave the church, but with those who adopt opinions contrary to the doctrines of the church, and then determine to remain in the church and propagate their erroneous views."

The Outlook (New York, undenom.) characterizes Mr. Mills's letter as one "of singular candor and earnestness," and one which "breathes a thoroughly Christian spirit." It adds: "Mr. Mills may have changed his theological opinions, but surely he has not changed his conception of what constitutes a Christian life. . . . If the spirit of this letter characterizes Mr. Mills's ministry in the future, it will be no less positive and devoted than it has been in the past."

The Independent says that the letter is "couched in the most respectful and affectionate language," and makes this comment on it: "So far as we can make out Mr. Mills does not really know whether he is Unitarian or not; at any rate the Unitarians try to claim him. The presbytery of Albany can do nothing but grant his request."

THE STORM-CENTER OF BIBLICAL CRITICISM.

THE storm-center of biblical controversy, like other storm-centers, shifts and changes, sometimes very rapidly. Just at present, it seems to overhang the Acts of the Apostles, and the form that it takes is a discussion of what is known as the "Blass hypothesis." In reviewing two new books published last year in Germany (one, by Dr. Bernhard Weiss, against, and the other, by the Catholic theologian, Dr. Johann Belser, in favor of Dr. Blass's views), *The Independent* gives a brief but lucid description of the hypothesis. We quote from it as follows:

"This veteran scholar [Dr. Blass] has turned aside from the familiar study of Demosthenes, Aristotle, and the like, and from a multitude of successful investigations into philological and historical questions in the Greek learning, to solve for us the perplexing problems which are offered in the apparently dual text of the writings of St. Luke, especially the Acts of the Apostles. In this work we have a well-defined double text, as far back as the second century, at all events; and as there is practically no evidence available to us earlier than Irenaeus and Tertullian, there is a strong suspicion that this duality of text is so early that it is almost, if not quite, fundamental, and, therefore, we must either say, according to Blass, that St. Luke published two editions of the Acts, or, with those scholars who do not agree with him, that there has been some unknown disturbing factor at work on the text, at a very early period indeed in its history. If Blass is right, we must publish the Acts in a double form, the first and earliest containing that text which is testified to by the Codex Bezae (D), the Codex Laudianus (E), by the old Latin texts of the Acts, and by the old Syriac, where traces of that version can be found, while the second and later and much abbreviated text will be substantially that which is exhibited by the main body of the uncial and cursive texts of the Acts.

"At present Blass is holding the field against all challengers. He has printed the text of the Acts as he believes it to have existed in Rome in the earliest times, and he has done much to show that the narrative, as he prints it, is much more lucid and original than the text commonly current, and that it contains actual additions to our knowledge which can not be set down to the hand

of any ordinary transcriber or commentator or editor, but must be referred to the original composer of the book. Our readers will remember how significant are many of the expansions of the Western text, for which Blass now stands as advocate. They will recall the many curious additions found in the Codex Bezae and its companions, the *continual tears* of Simon Magus, the descent of Peter by *seven steps* from the prison in Jerusalem to the street, the disputing of Paul in the school of Tyrannus from *eleven A.M. till four P.M.* every day, the address of Demetrius to the silversmiths as '*Gentlemen of the Guild*' (*Ινδόπες οὐρρεχταί*), the alarm of the magistrates in Philippi over the *earthquake*, and a host of similar matters must be accounted for; and how can they be explained by the wantonness of transcriber or tarsumist?"

THINGS THAT ARE DECAYING.

THE theological writer who contributes such able editorials to the columns of the *New York Sun* has recently expressed it as his deliberate and solemn conviction that the Presbyterian Church is disintegrating and going to destruction. Whether this, being in *The Sun*, is "so" or not, the considerations which lead the writer to this conviction are interesting. The reasons are found partly in the act of Professors Briggs and Shields, who have recently gone over from Presbyterianism into the fold of the Protestant Episcopal Church. It is noted also that these men have been received by the Episcopal Church apparently without hesitation. From this *The Sun* proceeds:

"All this looks very ominous. It shows that the depth and earnestness of conviction upon which the Presbyterian Church rested are passing away, and in many minds have already gone. What is to be the consequence to the Episcopal Church of such an accession of cold or lukewarm faith is a question which disturbs seriously a large party in its membership. These Presbyterian rebels and deserters do not come as converts, but simply to find a convenient refuge from the consequences of conduct and teaching destructive of all ecclesiastical organization, and even of faith in the supernatural itself. They do not fly to the Episcopal Church because of belief in the divine authority which belongs to it peculiarly, according to the conviction of the earnest faith in it, but because they are wholly indifferent to such pretensions and care nothing about the mere organization or the theories on which it is based. They are no longer Presbyterians, but neither are they Episcopalians in truth. They have lost genuine faith, and seek simply to tickle their esthetic tastes and retain the conventional appearance of orthodoxy."

These views of *The Sun* find indorsement in the editorial pages of *The Evangelical Messenger* (Cleveland, undenom.). It quotes the passage given above and adds:

"What *The Sun* says is none too severe, and is certainly only too true. Men of the school of Briggs and Smith have done immense harm. Not only have these men abandoned faith in the supernatural, but they have sown the seed of unbelief in thousands of hearts, so that it is even now getting to sound somewhat old-fashioned to assert belief in the supernatural. They have presumed to apply even to the infinite God Himself the puny measuring-rod of their scientific dicta, and demand proof of the supernatural where the very nature of that proof is itself denied. The very essence of religion is sublimized into airy nothingness by these intellectual iconoclasts, and yet they are received into the bosom of the church which claims to be above all others the residuary legatee of the faith once delivered to the saints. These are certainly ominous manifestations in the religious world."

To things decadent must also be added the ministry, according to *The Congregationalist*. It says:

"The ministry as a divine calling in recent years has been declining in public esteem. For this decline ministers and churches are mainly responsible. They have determined the standard of value, have decided what qualities they want in a minister, and what preparation is necessary to fit him for his position. People generally have accepted their standard. A generation ago the ministry stood highest among the learned professions. To-day it

stands lowest. The Massachusetts Bar Association would treat as ridiculous an application for membership with a degree of preparation in law which in theology would satisfy a Massachusetts ministerial association. Medical or dental associations would prosecute men who assumed to practise medicine or dentistry with no more knowledge of their business than the knowledge of theology which would make a candidate acceptable to ministerial associations. The Congregational ministry has suffered the greater relative decline as compared with some of the other denominations. Methodists, for example, have increased their requirements for ordination, and have enriched their equipment for theological education. Many of our stronger churches have sought and found able leaders from among men trained in Methodist theological schools. But any man of good moral character, by securing the assistance of some clerical friend, may reasonably hope to secure a license to preach from a Congregational association, and, with its certificate in his hand, is almost sure of ordination by a council if he finds a place in some small church as a stated supply. A persuasive plea which rarely fails is that the smaller churches can not afford to support educated men when uneducated men can be obtained at lower salaries."

"Time was when a minister counted it a worthy distinction to have been the pupil of some teacher who had gained distinction in theological scholarship. But now some of the most vociferous critics of biblical criticism have studied the Bible only in some self-appointed training-school for evangelists, and they seem to be regarded by many as having more authority than others who have spent years in reverent and painstaking research into the Scriptures. Nor is this true of one school only of those claiming to speak with authority. The most radical, as well as the most conservative, and in both cases the most dogmatic, of teachers of the Christian religion may be found among those whose facilities for knowing what they presume to teach have been very small."

The Methodist Protestant (Baltimore) does not altogether agree with its Boston contemporary, as will be seen by the following:

"There can be no doubt about the need of a continual growth in the intellectual equipment of the ministry. But the spiritual element is a primal factor that must not be overlooked. A man may be intellectually learned and developed and yet be an egregious failure. It never was more true than now that 'spiritual things are spiritually discerned,' an endowment that in the divine orderings comes to a Bunyan or a Moody and gives them power over men that the most learned may not possess, and that even university scholars might well covet."

"Our observation does not confirm the disparity here asserted between the ministry and other learned professions. Medicine has numerous quacks who hold diplomas from honorable institutions, and the law has numberless shysters who flaunt their sheepskin into your face. We think the rank and file of the ministry will compare favorably with any other class of citizens, and when their moral character is brought into the comparison, there is no class of men that can show such a record as theirs. The truth is that men do not understand God's economy. The battle is not with the strong, nor the race with the swift. 'It is by my Spirit, saith the Lord.' With that indorsement they can proclaim with power the truth as it is in Christ Jesus."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

GENERAL BOOTH has issued an appeal for funds to equip a force to cope with the destitution and corruption which are reported as being already rampant in the Klondike. The men sent out will be instructed to confine their efforts exclusively to (1) seeking the salvation of souls; (2) raising and organizing a body of men and women for the purpose of visiting and nursing the sick, the destitute, and unfortunate; (3) establishing in Dawson City, and other centres of population in the gold-fields, Salvation Army corps.

At the recent meeting of the National Council of the English Free Church Federation at Bristol a resolution was adopted condemning the toleration of a modified form of slavery in Pemba and Zanzibar, Africa. The Council renewed its committees to watch the course of legislation on secondary and higher grade education; protested against the proposal to establish, with public support, a Roman Catholic university in Ireland; and ordered inquiry to be instituted as to what provision is made for meeting the religious needs of Free Churchmen traveling on the Continent during the tourist season.

FOREIGN TOPICS.

THE WAR AS SEEN ABROAD.

IT is reported that the Spanish Government is very anxious to secure an alliance with a stronger power, and the *Heraldo*, Madrid, publishes articles setting forth the advantages of an alliance between France, Russia, and Spain. So far these advances seem to have met with little encouragement. Spain has isolated herself from the rest of Europe for generations, and it is difficult for her to find help now. Failing alliances, the subject of intervention is mooted. This does not seem out of the question. The *Politische Correspondenz*, Vienna, expresses itself to the following effect:

It is feared that the United States will restrict their operations to mere naval demonstrations until Spain, weakened by internal strife, is utterly unable to assist her colonies. In that case the victory of the Americans will be easy and effective. But Europe can not allow the complete destruction of Spain, from a moral, financial, and political point of view. The powers will be forced to intervene in the end, probably after the first decisive battle.

This paper is credited with being in touch with diplomats of all European countries. The *Éclair*, Paris, believes that negotiations with a view to arbitration are already in progress, and claims that a German diplomat is responsible for this statement. The *Secolo*, Milan, also thinks that the key to the situation is in Berlin, where the policy of the Triple Alliance is determined. The German press, however, despite its almost unanimously unfriendly attitude toward the United States, declares that Germany will not interfere unless her own interests are menaced. This, in the case of Cuba, is not probable, thinks the *Kölnische Zeitung*. That paper says:

"As the crisis approached, the European powers have taken care to observe the strictest neutrality. This, indeed, is to their own advantage. Economically all must suffer to some extent by this war, but that does not give them the right to intervene. We must hope that a revival of business after the war will even up matters. The powers which hold possessions in America have so far shown no concern in the possible defeat of Spain and the consequent loss of Cuba. Powers which have no American colonies certainly have no reason to take sides."

The Berlin correspondent of the London *Daily News* nevertheless thinks that Germany may interfere if the United States takes possession of the Philippines. He says:

"Of the thirty-three large firms in Manila, only five are Spanish and four of these have little to do with foreign trade. Of the rest, fourteen are German, twelve British, one Dutch, one Belgian. From February 16 to March 11 seventy ships arrived at Manila. Only four of these were Spanish."

The *Westminster Gazette*, too, speaks of "unpleasant surprises in store for the United States" if we think we will be allowed to do with the Philippines what we please.

It is interesting to note that while the defeat of the Spanish fleet in the Philippines was expected, and the possibility of an American occupation discussed before Commodore (now Admiral) Dewey left Hongkong, the position of the Spaniards in Cuba is regarded as very strong. Porto Rico is hardly mentioned, and little seems to be known about the defenses of that group. Of Cuba, Marcelino Badosa speaks as follows in the *Gaulois*, Paris:

"The worst misfortune that could happen to the Americans would be to land a large force in Cuba. The climate would be murderous, and Spanish rifles are too numerous to be despised. As a matter of fact, a landing is very difficult. Between Manzanillo and Cienfuegos it is almost impossible, as well as between Manzanillo and Santiago. The northern coast from Cape St. Antonio to Maissie is covered by small islands and rocks which make a landing extremely difficult and dangerous to large vessels. The American fleet must therefore endeavor to cover a

landing at or near one of the larger ports. It happens, however, that the defenses of Havana are in excellent condition, and armed chiefly with modern artillery of great range. These defenses are not easy to silence. The American squadron may blockade Cuba as long as it pleases, the island will not starve. Its resources are greater than the Americans think."

The Westminster Gazette says:

"There is poetic justice in the fact that the Spaniards, by devastating the island, have deprived themselves of some of these advantages. Cuba, after the last ten years, can hardly be self-supporting. But the other advantages remain. With its numerous harbors and immense coast-line, it is not likely to be completely blockaded by such a fleet as the Americans have sent from Key West, and unless the insurgents render very active assistance from within, the most sanguine American must expect its reduction to be a long business."

The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, asserts that the strength of Havana is well known to the American commanders, who will not needlessly risk damage to their ships. It is not necessary to go within range of the Spanish guns, the blockade is just as effective without it. All European correspondents agree that the people of Havana have not yet shown signs of panic. It is believed that a bombardment of the city can not take place until the batteries are silenced.

The capture of the Spanish merchantmen is contrasted very sharply with the release of American vessels from Havana and other ports, and after the blockade had already begun. There is no international ruling against the capture of the ships, but its moral effect has been decidedly bad. *The Daily Chronicle*, our most determined defender in Great Britain, says:

"We are not surprised to hear that the American government lawyers are inclined to advise the release of the whole of this first flight of 'prizes.' Apparently they did not quite think out the situation, and in their laudable anxiety to be at the enemy they forgot both their own Constitution and the general rules of the game. It so happens that the United States are by Constitution sticklers for that formal 'declaration of war' which is now becoming a little obsolete in the practise of the world."

The same paper demands that England assume a "benevolent neutrality" toward the United States, allowing the latter to obtain coal and war material, and refusing it to the Spaniards. It is, however, apparent to continental observers that Great Britain will carry out the neutrality laws very strictly. *The Journal des Débats*, Paris, says:

"The *Alabama* case led to special agreements between the United States and Great Britain, and these now hamper the Americans. It is in view of the annoyance experienced by England that her neutrality regulations are so strictly enforced. Thus the torpedo-boat *Somers* was prevented from enlisting a crew, and a vessel which was being finished for the United States in Ireland is not permitted to leave. The Washington authorities are simply made to feel the weight of the rules they imposed upon Great Britain twenty-seven years ago."

We give below a summary of the war news as presented to European readers until the beginning of May. The papers called it mostly "the dearth of news." Where individual papers are responsible for an item presented to the public of all countries, we give its name. Most of the news is supplied by Reuter's agency:

Actual hostilities began when the American squadron made prizes of Spanish steamers which had just left American ports. The Spaniards, not being aware of the capture of such vessels, allowed American vessels to leave Cuban ports even after the blockade had begun, in conformity with the international rules upon the subject. The blockade is as effective as could be expected, considering the enormous coast line patrolled by the American fleet. The fact, however, that it is broken successfully by several steamers induce some English papers to declare it void, and there is some talk of sending ships of Admiral Fisher's squadron to investigate whether English vessels need respect the blockade (*St. James's Gazette*). Both belligerents are unpre-

pared, and a long struggle seems to have begun. Spain finds great difficulty in supplying herself with war material, the United States is at loss where to obtain efficient men. Spain's chief difficulty lies in the want of coal. The Americans can not get men for the navy. As much as \$250 is reported to have been paid in a single port on one day for the apprehension of deserters. "Hopeless confusion" is supposed to exist in the American War Department (London *Standard*), the Secretary of War and Generals Miles and Schofield being at loggerheads. The only competent man, General Merritt, is not given a chance because he is not *persona grata* to the Secretary of War. The Spanish fleet in the Philippines is reported willing to give battle to the American vessels assembled at Hongkong. This does greater credit to the courage than to the common sense of the Spaniards, as all but two of their gunboats and cruisers out there, the *Isla de Cuba* and the *Isla de Luzon*, are worthless. It is thought very probable that the Americans will take possession of the forts at Manila, but it is doubted that they can hold the position without reinforcements. The batteries at Manila are armed with old smooth bores, with the exception of a few guns from the ships. There are signs that the Spanish Ministry will be seriously hampered by Carlist and Republican opposition in the Cortes. The Guardia Civil, the most loyal and most effective military body in Spain, will have its hands full to suppress demonstrations, if not actual rebellion. In America the President is being deserted by the members of his Cabinet, the most notable instance being the resignation of Secretary Sherman, who is against the war, does not like the attitude of the American Government toward England, and regards the latter country as the real enemy of the United States. No fear is entertained in Madrid with regard to the safety of Havana, which is strongly fortified. It is, however, thought that the Americans may make an attempt to seize the Canary Islands. Fortifications are strengthened there with feverish haste, and some of Spain's best troops have gone there. In New York the people are alternately elated over some imaginary victory and depressed through the rumor of the approach of a Spanish fleet. The Spanish Government manages to remain in communication with Havana via Jamaica, Bermuda, and Halifax. President McKinley hopes to reduce Cuba by starvation, but the American jingo press demand the immediate landing of troops (London *Daily News*). Thoughtful people in the United States fear the fever, and wish to defer the landing of troops in Cuba until after the rainy season. The Cuban leaders in New York and Paris also fear that the American troops will not withstand the climate. It is suggested that a small force of seasoned men be sent. All that is necessary at present is to arm and feed the insurgents (Dr. Betances, Cuban representative in Paris, in the *Gaulois*).

The hot, moist air of the Cuban coast and the continual call to quarters cause much suffering in the American fleet. The men are anxious to do something. By way of diversion, a few shots were fired at the batteries of Matanzas. The exact position of the batteries was thus ascertained. No damage was done to the American vessels and none to the batteries, tho a mule was killed. Many men are reported to be ill in the American fleet (Berlin *Tageblatt*). No shots have been fired at the defenses of Havana, as the American admiral does not wish to risk his ships ere he has encountered the Spanish fleet. Nor have the Spaniards fired at the blockading vessels, as they are out of range and there is not enough ammunition to permit waste. Recruiting in the United States is proceeding under difficulties. There is no lack of men, but their quality is not exactly as good as may be wished. The refusal of the Seventh (New York) Regiment to go to the front caused some surprise, until the reason was explained.—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

"Sheltering the Peace of a Hemisphere."—Reviewing a new book on the Monroe doctrine published in England (Cambridge), the London *Academy* expresses itself as follows on the attitude of the United States:

"The American people, with unarmed hands sheltering the peace of a hemisphere, can not help contrasting the lot of the New World with that of the Old. The result of that contrast is a passionate resolve to keep the blood tax from the Americas, and to see that the New World is not made a scene for the repetition of the feuds and the ambitions of Europe. They have seen how

another continent has been parceled out; how the doctrine of the *hinterland* has been pressed; and how certain it is that in a little while all the Old-World quarrels, the dynastic bickerings, the race rivalries, the frontier disputes, and the standing armies of Europe will be mimicked and reproduced upon the soil of Africa, from Alexandria to the Cape. With this tremendous object-lesson before them, the Americans cling with redoubled faith to the policy formulated by Monroe. It is interesting and important to note how the language of the American Presidents has grown stronger with the growing strength of the States. Intervention, which Monroe spoke of as 'the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition,' Mr. Cleveland roundly denounces as a 'wilful aggression upon the rights and interests' of America. But then Monroe spoke for eleven millions of people, and Cleveland for seventy."

OUR FRIENDS AND OUR ADVERSARIES.

IT is gratifying to note that so cautious and unimpassioned a publication as the Amsterdam *Handelsblad* is unwavering in its defense of the American cause. The paper is very influential, and makes itself felt all along the Rhine, even above Frankfurt. In an article which is evidently addressed at the Germans, tho not to them, the *Handelsblad* expresses itself to the following effect:

Spain behaves nobly in this crisis. But that can not take away the fact that the "boorish, speculative Yankees" are fighting in the cause of justice, tho some of them may not even know it. We admit that the press of Europe does not share this view. That press takes sides with "the under dog." But let us in the first place be *just*. If our own people had committed in India a tenth part of the barbarities practised by Spain, we would advocate the expulsion of the Hollander from the Dutch East Indies.

Spain has done in Cuba exactly the same thing which Louis XIV. did in the Palatinate. He knew he could not hold it, and he ordered that beautiful region to be changed into a desert. We do not say that the Spaniards, like the French king, committed their barbarities intentionally. The fact remains, however, that *hundreds of thousands of people have died in Cuba* in consequence of General Weyler's cruel order of concentration. No doubt the American financiers, politicians, and journalists who brought about the war are disgusting. But behind them stands the American *people*, whose aims are pure, and that people deserves the sympathies of the nations of the earth.

A few friends make themselves heard in France, too, tho chiefly in ultra-Radical quarters. The *Lanterne*, Paris, says:

"The United States assures the world that conquest is not her aim, and there is as yet no reason to doubt this assertion. America appears as the defender of justice before the world, which is a disgrace for Europe. Europe should have seen to it that Spain treated her colonies better; then there would be no need for this bloodshed now."

The *Aurore* says that "the Spanish falcon was caught in the act of strangling the Cuban nightingale, by the American eagle. Spain has only herself to blame." The majority of the French papers nevertheless unreservedly range themselves on the side of Spain, because Spain has, during the past two years, made many concessions to the United States.

Is England with us? That part of the British press which has proven itself most influential during the past few years certainly is not. Our sympathizers are the papers which promised aid to Armenia and backed Greece, *The Daily Chronicle*, *Leader*, *Manchester Guardian*, *Advertiser*, etc. Government organs, like *The Standard*, sit on the fence. Confirmed Conservatives, such as *The St. James's Gazette*, side openly with Spain. Journals which are compared by continental papers to our American "Know-Nothing" press abuse us in the most unreserved manner, such, for instance, as *The Saturday Review*. On the whole, it may be said that the masses are with us, the classes against us, in Great Britain. *The Morning Leader* says:

"It is easy for partisans to decry the purity of American motive, but it is not wise. How often have we entered upon a holy mis-

sion with an eye on the main chance. The average Englishman looks at the broad aspect of this case. Spain has been guilty of hateful and abominable cruelty for many years in an island close to the American continent. She has also, in the most treacherous manner, sunk an ironclad belonging to America in a Spanish port, and so murdered more than two hundred officers and men. America has come to the conclusion that this sort of thing must cease, and she is taking steps to end it. Once more we say that we, and the vast majority of Englishmen, wish her good-luck."

The Saturday Review, in the course of a long article, says:

"Michael Davitt is probably right in his assertion that the ruling classes in England wish Spain success, firstly because they are truly patriotic and know that the Americans have no affection for the English people; secondly, because they are at heart aristocratic. . . . We are all disgusted with these raw, vulgar, blatant Americans who scour Europe in search of their self-respect, and can not conduct a mere legal case with decency. . . . There is confidence in Spain and confidence in the United States—with a difference. 'Fighting Bob' Evans said he would 'make Spanish the most popular language in hell for ten years to come.' Admiral Villamil and his men simply took a vow before the shrine of the Virgin never to return unless victorious. These are only two of many pairs of contrasts which could thus be set side by side."

Italy is decidedly against us. "The Cubans," says the *Corriere della Sera*, Rome, "have of course a right to want freedom, but Spain certainly can not be asked to give up this jewel at the bidding of an outsider." The London correspondent of this paper declares that there is no great sympathy with the United States in England, and, indeed, many other representatives of continental journals declare the same. The *Corriere della Sera* also claims that it rests with the German Government to bring about European intervention.

Intervention is, however, to all appearances not at all thought of in Germany. The Emperor and the Chancellor have repeatedly affirmed their intention to preserve strict neutrality, subject only to the demands of actual German interests. The *Weser Zeitung*, Bremen, says:

"Spain must fight her own battles. Europe had good reasons to regulate matters in the near East, yet the 'concert' barely escaped breaking up. Whether Spain has Cuba or not is a matter of third-rate importance to Europe. Spain has done nothing to deserve the friendship and assistance of other countries; she has been purely egotistical. The loss of her South American possessions should have taught her how to treat colonies. England has learned it. Spain's efforts in the right direction come too late; she must bear the consequences."

Yet the aversion of the German people to intervention does not mean sympathy with our cause. The overwhelming majority of German papers of all parties give Spain some "moral support" because they can not be convinced that the people of the United States stand higher from an ethical point of view than those of Spain. The *Kladderadatsch*, the most popular and most widely circulated comic paper in Germany, declares in its leading poem that no thoughtful German could credit the "Yankees" with unselfish motives, and publishes a cartoon showing two sides of the American flag, on the one the words: "In the name of humanity"; on the other the words: "We demand the American sugar-field for our speculators." The *Rundschau*, Berlin, edited by Graf Hoensbroech and Henry Rippler, and read by the best families, asserts that there is "absolutely no truth in the alleged motives of humanity." The *Progressist Nation*, which used to hold America up to the Monarchs as a pattern, mourns the failure of democracy as an administrator of justice, and "can not close its eyes to the fact" that the Cuban rebellion is of our own making. But all, even Bismarck's *Hamburger Nachrichten*, say "we are not going to disturb our American trade for the sake of Spain." Similar opinions are vented in Austria. The *Deutsche Tages Zeitung*, Vienna, even uses the blood-is-thicker-than-water argument. It says:

"Our sympathies are with the Union. Next to Berlin and Vienna, New York is thought to be the largest German city. What German or Austrian family is without a relative on the other side of the great water? And these relatives are, perhaps, about to shed their blood for their adopted country. . . . We believe that all friends of freedom are on the side of America."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

DECLINE OF GERMAN INFLUENCE IN RUSSIA.

THE *Rundschau*, Berlin, publishes the text of a lecture recently delivered in the German capital by Herr v. Loewenthal, a German who has been forced to leave Russia. He declares that German influence has very much declined in the land of the Muscovites. We summarize as follows:

From the time of Peter the Great to the last quarter of the present century German influence was predominant in Russia, and the Government did its best to attract German emigrants. The Germans were preferred in every department, and held up as patterns to the Russians by the Russian rulers themselves. Since the Germans have begun to feel themselves a nation, to speak with some pride of their native land, and to deplore that they have been merely the *Kulturdünger** of the world, the feelings of the Russians have naturally changed somewhat. They now treat the Germans with some suspicion. During the latter part of Alexander III.'s reign, the Germans have not been encouraged. At present their condition is again somewhat improved.

The Germans in Russia may to-day be divided into four distinct groups. The first consists of those who remain German citizens, mostly merchants, traders, and industrials living in the larger cities. Like all foreigners in Russia, they are treated rather better than the Russians themselves. It is not true that a foreigner must have his trunks packed all the time, awaiting a summary expulsion. These German citizens form societies, uphold their connection with their country, and assist such isolated cases of distress as may appear among them. The second group comprises artisans, musicians, engineers, etc., descended from Germans in the third and fourth generation. These, tho they continue to speak German, are Russians at heart. They are very well off, and fond of the land of their birth. Germany they visit only for pleasure and to obtain the latest ideas. The third group is composed of the descendants of the German farmers in the numerous colonies settled in Russia. They remain German in speech and custom, but their allegiance is altogether to the Czar. They are getting poorer and poorer, for the pernicious system which vested property of the soil in the community has affected even them disastrously. Like the Russian peasants, they rob the soil they can not own. The fourth and last group comprises the inhabitants of German provinces on the Baltic which are in the possession of Russia. Since the beginning of the eighties they have been much harried by the Russian nativists, who abolish the German names of cities, prohibit German schools, and insist upon complete Russification. The Czar's Government makes a great mistake in this. It lowers the standard of these people. Politically Germany can do nothing for them; but it is the duty of the German press to encourage them. They are strictly loyal to the Czar and will remain so if they are not oppressed. To compare them with the Poles is a great injustice. They never rebelled, and Socialism, which at present is spread all over Russia by the Poles, does not make headway with them.—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

An Explanation of England's Criticism of America.—The London *Spectator* has been one of the prominent journals of England that manifests sympathy with the attitude of the United States toward Cuba. In a recent issue, it tells

* The "manure of civilization" is what the Germans sarcastically call such of their emigrants as are utterly lost to the land of their birth.—*Editor of The Literary Digest.*

us what we must expect from the British press in general. It says:

"As a nation we are nothing if not critical, and as a nation we shall watch closely and comment shrewdly on every move in the terrible game of war which is about to be played. With the British race criticism is a habit, and an Englishman will criticize with deadly distinctness and directness the actions of his father, and much more of his children and grandchildren. Let Americans remember also that this criticism will be more severe in their case than in that of the Spaniards, not because we are less, but because we are more favorable to them than to their enemies. We shall require from our own flesh and blood a standard of rectitude and good faith and fair fighting which we should not demand from any other nation.

"This may seem unfair, but it is the fact. If the Spaniards put themselves in the wrong, and do things deserving of our censure, they will be passed by with comparatively little notice, as actions such as are to be expected from foreigners. If the Americans do anything which appears to us to be a falling away from grace, public opinion here will be in a ferment. For example, if a Spanish cruiser had been blown up in New York harbor under circumstances of the gravest suspicion—the thing is, of course, impossible, but we may use it as an illustration of our meaning—our press and our people would have rung with expression of indignation. The thought that such a thing could have happened among our kindred would have sent the nation into a frenzy of annoyance. When it happened in Havana, public opinion was comparatively calm. We were sorry, but our people felt that even if the suspicions proved true this was only one more proof of what Southern races will do when they grow mad with injured pride and the black spirit of revenge. To put it in a word, the use of the dagger does not shock us among Southerners as it does among our own people. . . . It is indeed to this resolve to criticize at all costs which must be attributed so much of the ill blood caused during the war of the North and South. England was not really hostile to the Union, but she could not forego the right of criticism. As we know now, Lord John Russell was always at heart on the side of the North, but that did not prevent him and his colleagues nearly criticizing the two countries into war. No doubt we shall do better than that this time; but, as we have said, criticism there will and must be."

KING COAL.

A QUESTION of vital importance in the present war, and in all future wars as long as navies are moved by steam power, is whether the belligerents can obtain an adequate supply of coal. *The Daily Chronicle*, London, has already suggested that Great Britain should be "benevolent" toward the United States in the interpretation of the neutrality laws, allowing the American vessels to coal freely at Hongkong, and shutting off the supply of British coal for the Spanish fleet. Spain, being short of fuel, does not regard coal as contraband, while the United States, being in possession of some of the finest coal-fields in the world, is very rigorous on this point. *The Independance Belge* does not think it improbable that the rules of neutrality will be modified with regard to coal. On the whole, it is thought that Great Britain, anxious to improve her relation with the United States, will favor the latter country by a strict interpretation of the rule that coal is contraband. *The Speaker*, London, says:

"It is thought that Spain will be unable to break the Cuban blockade, as even a weaker fleet than hers might do, because she has no coal. Germany in 1870 desired that the export of coal from England to the French North Sea fleet should be absolutely prohibited. This proposal is out of the question. It is no part of the duty of a neutral power to prevent its subjects from trading in contraband of war; all that it can do is to refrain from protesting if the guilty ship is caught. There will doubtless be many tramp colliers going to the West Indies within the next month, but the British Government will have no power to ask them whether they intend the coal for the Spanish fleet, or to stop them even if they openly admit that they intend to sell it to Spain if they can manage to reach Havana. . . . The Treaty of Wash-

ington binds us 'not to permit or suffer any belligerent to make use of our ports or waters as the base of naval operations, or for the purpose of the renewal or augmentation of military supplies.' Nobody knows what this means; nobody ever will know with any certainty. But it is at least arguable that if English coal is shipped constantly to Kingston, and thence run into Cuban ports or waters, Kingston would be used for the purpose of the renewal of military supplies, if not indeed as a base of naval operations. . . . Thus if the Spaniards avoid a pitched battle, in which we assume they would be defeated, they could carry on a guerilla conflict at sea, deriving the most essential part of their naval equipment from British ports. . . . If America, on the other hand, finds the war has been prolonged by action which they might construe as a breach of the Treaty of Washington, they will not be quite so enthusiastic about alliance with their kin across the sea. . . . The whole question deserves the gravest consideration, and we incline to think that under the circumstances of the present struggle it might be prudent to pass ordinances in the various West Indian islands which would empower the Government to prevent trade in contraband."

The Globe, Toronto, nevertheless, points out that the British "tramp" would have to supply the Spaniard at his own risk. It says:

"It is well to remember that the right of search for contraband articles can be exercised on the seas, and that neutral vessels attempting to carry on a trade in coal by taking it from neutral ports to sell to belligerents would have to take their chance of being stopped and searched by the ships of the other belligerent. This is but an additional instance of the practical friendship which has been manifested by Great Britain to the daughter nation."

The Westminster Gazette says:

"A Spanish vessel in the Channel could not get coal to take her across the Atlantic, but she could get coal to take her to Cadiz. So far so good. But a Spanish vessel at Jamaica could apparently get coal to take her to Havana which a neutral would be bound to recognize as 'the nearest port of her own country.' Therefore, the Spanish fleet will for all practical purposes be able to coal in the West Indies, subject only to the condition that they shall take no more than they want for the actual voyage. This condition is exceedingly elastic, and is not likely to be of much consequence unless the amounts are specially defined by the Admiralty and the ships put, so to speak, on prison rations. . . . The Americans apparently will be able to get coal in British ports to carry them as far as Spain, which is 'a nearer destination' than the nearest port of their own country. Here, again, the only safeguard lies in the provision that they shall take such coal *only* as is necessary to take them to the nearest destination. But there is, apparently, no condition that the coal shall be the only coal on board, and the chance of getting enough coal in England to take them from the Channel to the Mediterranean might be a factor of substantial importance. . . . The interpretations must be strictly fair between the contending parties. If we draw the limit tight in the West Indies, we must be prepared to draw it tight, hereafter, should the case arise in the British Channel."

FOREIGN NOTES.

IT seems to be regarded as undoubted by our foreign contemporaries that the war with Spain will retard very much our export of manufactured articles, and even to some extent that of agricultural produce. War risks will increase freight from the United States to such an extent that we can not easily compete with other nations, not to speak of the difficulty in delivering orders on time.

ALTHO there is no reason to suppose that any of the South American countries will interfere in a single-handed duel between the United States and Spain, popular opinion in Spanish America is at least as much in favor of Spain as British and British-Colonial opinion is in favor of the United States, and the question of a Latin union for defense is actively discussed from the Rio Grande del Norte to Porto Gallegos.

RUSSIA contains more than twice as many blind persons as all the rest of Europe combined. The Russian Statistical Society, which is authority for this statement, places the number at 190,000, or two in every thousand of the population. In France and England the blind are not quite one per thousand. The excessive blindness in Russia is believed to be due to the long snow season and the uncleanly habits of the people. Of all the 190,000, but two or three hundred can read, and only about 2,500 are cared for in institutions for the blind.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HOW TIME IS RECKONED IN CHINA.

AN interesting popular account of the curious and somewhat complicated methods of reckoning time in China and of predicting events is contributed to the *Revue Scientifique* (Paris, March 5) by M. Paul d'Enjoy. It appears that the Chinese name their years instead of numbering them, and the names, which are determined by numerical sequence, are supposed to have prophetic meaning. Curiously enough the name of the present year, as M. d'Enjoy shows, corresponds quite well with the political troubles that threaten the Chinese Empire. We translate below a large part of the article. Says the French writer:

"The Chinese 'century,' or cycle, is composed of sixty years; it is called *Luc-Giap*, which means 'the six decades.' In China the years are not numbered, they have names. These names are formed by means of combining two words—the first taken from a series of ten expressions denoting inert materials of the earth, and the second from a series of twelve names of living animals.

"The century is divided into two distinct sets of periods, of ten and twelve years each, respectively. By an ingenious combination of the two sets of names appropriate to these series the names of the individual years are formed."

The ten terms applied to the years of the first series of periods (*giap*, *at*, *binh*, *dinh*, etc.) mean respectively "dead-wood," "glowing-wood," "outer fireplace," "inner fireplace," "fallow land," "cultivated land," "natural mineral," "manufactured mineral," "ordinary water," "potable water." Says the writer:

"As can be seen, the terms are in pairs. They are arranged on a unique plan of antitheses . . . so that in reality the decennial period is composed of five fundamental expressions.

"These material principles constitute the five primordial elements according to the Chinese theory of the terrestrial world: wood, fire, earth, mineral, and water."

In the twelve-year period the years are named for the rat, the ox, the tiger, the hare, etc., which are also the twelve signs of the Chinese zodiac, and by the combination of the two names which each year possesses—one by virtue of its position in the ten-year period and one for the twelve-year period—each of the sixty years in the cycle has its distinctive name.

"If, thus, as happens at the outset of each cycle, we begin the two periods together, it is easy to name the years.

"The first will be *Giap-Ti*, that is, the year of dead-wood and the rat—a conjunction that denotes a fatal year, according to popular superstition.

"The second will be *At-Suu*, the year of shining-wood and the ox, a favorable combination.

"Thus in order we proceed until we reach the eleventh year, when the decimal series has expired, while the duodecimal series has yet two terms remaining. We must thus go back to the first term of the decennial division to join it to the eleventh of the duodecimal.

"Owing to the course of these two unequal series of terms there occurs, as the years go by, a constant variety of compound names, and we can show arithmetically that each double name appears only once every sixty years, that is to say, only once in the course of a Chinese cycle, so that every year in the cycle has its distinct individual name.

"The year 1897 was the thirty-fourth of the seventy-sixth cycle of the Chinese era, called *Dinh-Dau*. It is the year of the interior fireplace and the chicken; that is to say, according to popular superstition, an epoch of calm.

"The year 1898 (Mo-Tuat, fallow land and the dog) indicates that all the energy of the nation will turn from tilling the soil toward vigilance and the care of the home, in view of foreign threats.

"This is the way that the Chinese predict the future, and those of us who smile skeptically at their innocent superstitions, sometimes accept still more gross errors; so true is it that in the human mind the germ of primitive religion is not yet dead."

—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

James Payn's Story of a Junior Partner.—The late James Payn, author of more than half a hundred novels, nearly all of them moderately successful, told to the London *Daily News* once upon a time an interesting story in connection with his experience in editing *Chambers's Journal*. The story does not appear in Mr. Payn's volumes of reminiscence, but is recalled by the London *Academy*. It runs as follows:

"The editorial room he [Payn] occupied during his long connection with the popular Edinburgh publication had long before the Chambers's time been a bedroom in which one or the other of two partners of a firm had for many years made a rule of sleeping. It was, in fact, a stipulation of the deed of partnership that one of them should sleep on the premises. In course of years, however, it became rather an irksome restriction upon their liberty, and in order to free themselves from it they agreed to take into partnership their manager, an old servant of the house, on condition that he would occupy the bedroom and so fulfil the requirements of the deed. The old servant was naturally very much moved by this recognition of his services, but pleaded that he had not the necessary capital to qualify him for partnership. As to that, it was only £500 that was necessary, and this the firm had decided to give him. And so the matter was settled. The trusty servant became a partner, and took possession of the room, in which he was found next morning with his brains blown out. He left behind him a letter in which he explained that all those years during which he had been so trusted he had been robbing his employers, and their great kindness had so filled him with remorse that he couldn't live under it."

Alteration of Metals in Sea-Water.—From examination of a large number of metallic objects taken from the bottom of the harbor of Brest, during the dredging of that body of water, M. Lidy, a civil engineer, has drawn interesting conclusions about the prolonged action of sea-water on metals, according to *Ingénieurs Civils* (Paris). "Only gold and silver remain intact; the other metals all undergo more or less radical changes, whose importance may be seen from the following summary: Pure bronze, which contains only traces of lead, iron, or zinc, seems to have great powers of resistance to sea-water; at the end of three hundred years it has undergone only a slight surface corrosion, and it probably would remain practically uninjured for a much longer time. On the contrary, brass and iron undergo much more rapid decomposition, not only on the surface, but in the interior of their mass. In iron, the superficial action is preponderant, . . . but in brass the interior action is the greater; this action is particularly dangerous, because it does not affect the form of the objects, while it diminishes their strength considerably. Brass undergoes the form of decomposition known as 'softening,' which allows it to be cut with a knife like lead. This alteration is more or less complete, as the immersion is longer or shorter and as the quality of the metal is good or the reverse. It is the more dangerous in that it shows on the outside only by a slight coating of rust."—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

STATISTICS recently published by the Interior Department show that the Government still has over 600,000,000 acres unoccupied. This is enough to give each of the 73,000,000 people in the country a homestead of eight acres and still have 16,000,000 acres left. The land is distributed among twenty-six States and Territories. The largest amount is located in Alaska, where there are 369,529,600 acres. Most of this land will never be available for homestead purposes, of course, but its mineral value may be more than if the whole vast tract was available for grazing and farming purposes. The remainder of the land lies in productive States, but much of it is barren and arid or mountainous.

CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER

Buddhists in India.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

In your issue of March 14, 1898 (p. 356), your correspondent states that "there are no Buddhists at the present day in India." But there are thousands of them in the sub-Himalaya, and in the Chittagong district, not to speak of Burma and Ceylon. There are a few Buddhists also near Nankali. These facts may not be deemed important, but it is always well to be accurate in regard to statements of fact.

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

Despite war and international complications "the outlook for general business throughout the country for the current year is a flattering one" (*Bradstreet's*). Actual business through clearing-houses during the past week has been 9.8 per cent. larger than 1892 outside New York and 12.3 per cent. larger here, and at all points for the month 26.3 per cent. larger than last year. The high price for wheat, May delivery having reached \$1.91 at this city on Monday of last week, was the chief feature of note. Railroad earnings and iron trade advance have also been encouraging. The wool market shows improvement, but "cotton dropped."

The Rise in Wheat.—Years of experience had made them [speculators] believe that \$1.20 was a price for wheat which could not be held at New York, and foreign and other sales above that point were large. But the highest regular quotation for twenty-five years was reached at \$1.91 this week, tho for No. 2 Milwaukee \$2 was paid in 1877. The reaction to \$1.50 was not surpassed in view of Western receipts, which were 3,938,767 bushels during the week, against 2,165,622 bushels a year ago. But Atlantic exports of 3,050,442 bushels against 1,668,147 bushels last year, flour included, and Pacific exports of 376,249 bushels, against 300,147 bushels, making in two weeks 5,901,290 bushels, against 3,506,584 bushels last year, show a foreign demand greater than had been expected. French duties were suspended and Russian exports nominally tho not yet actually stopped; but more convincing than either as to foreign necessities were the exports of 6,141,397 bushels of corn during the week and 10,687,146 bushels in two weeks, against 5,586,855 bushels last year.—*Dun's Review*, May 14.

Railroad Earnings.—The aggregated earnings of the various companies for the month of April prove them to have been in a veritable class by themselves, in that they show few effects of the dulness, and even depression, complained of in some sections of the country. The total earnings of 113 companies, with 96,000 miles of road, for the month of April amounted to \$43,095,324, a gain of 15.5 per cent. over April a year ago, and with the exception of November last, the heaviest increase reported since the setting in of the late depression. As for some time past the Pacific roads

"STRONG MAN IRVING."

Montgomery E. Irving, who is said to be one of the strongest men in the world, in a recent interview with the Baltimore, Md., *News*, said, in regard to diet, "Keep away from coffee. It should be taken off the market."

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If it is necessary for a strong man to avoid narcotics and drugs of this character, it would seem especially important for the brain worker or the highly sensitized and delicately organized woman to avoid them as they would any other poison, if they feel the slightest desire to maintain their health and a comfortable poise of the nervous system.

True, many people seem to use coffee without a direct harmful effect, but a little careful inquiry will nearly always develop the fact that coffee users have some disturbance of the body, which they always attribute to some other cause than coffee, but which, by a curious law, is likely to be helped if they can ever be induced to abandon coffee for ten days to a month, and take on Postum Cereal Food Coffee, which instead of narcotizing and destroying the nervous system, furnishes the food elements demanded by nature to rebuild the gray matter in the nerve centres throughout the body.

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show the largest percentage of gain, 32.1 per cent. over a year ago, but the Granger roads show an increase of 21.4 per cent., the Central Western 16.5, and the Southwestern group 15.4 per cent., gain. Only 16 out of the 112 systems showed decreases from last year. The total earnings of 112 roads for the four months increased 15.4 per cent. over the year 1897, and here again the Pacific, Grangers, Central Western, and Southwestern roads lead alike in the volume and percentage of gain shown."—*Bradstreet's*, May 14.

Wool Somewhat More Firm.—The sales of wool have been only 4,005,000 pounds at the three chief markets for two weeks, against 14,530,400 pounds last year and 11,216,750 pounds in 1892, but prices are somewhat more firm, and there is more demand for goods apart from the large government orders.—*Dun's Review*, May 14.

Activity in Iron and Steel.—A rather more confident feeling seems to pervade the iron trade, which is reflected in fractional advances for leading makes of iron and steel. Features of the week are very heavy sales of pig iron at many markets, but it is again claimed that stocks have begun to accumulate at some points as a result of the continued enormous production, which is placed at 1,000,000 tons per month. . . . At the West reports received point to activity in nearly all sorts. At Chicago alone 60,000 tons of pig iron have been sold in two weeks. An advance in hives at most Western markets is also a feature, as is the recovery in trade reported at St. Louis, as the result of the return of good weather. Sales of agricultural implements are very heavy, and manufacturers are free buyers of raw material, looking forward, as they do, to a very active season."—*Bradstreet's*, May 14.

Canadian Trade.—Canadian trade is good; more particularly is this the case in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Toronto reports trade expanding. Import and export trade alike shows gains. Light summer goods are active and more is doing in fall goods. Wool is coming forward slowly, but leather is higher. Crop prospects in Ontario and Winnipeg are excellent and a large yield, particularly of wheat, is looked for, the prospect being that all records in this respect will be broken. There is some demand for chemicals from the United States, but business in those classed as contraband of war is, of course, not active. Cold and wet weather checked business in spring goods at Montreal during portion of the week. Groceries and boots and shoes are active. Failures in the Dominion of Canada this week number 25, against 22 last week, 31 in the week a year ago, 34 in 1896, and 28 in 1895. Bank clearings for the week aggregate \$27,172,000, 3 per cent. larger than last week and 10 per cent. larger than a year ago."—*Bradstreet's*, May 14.

PERSONALS.

GENERAL FITZHUGH LEE's mother was Miss Anna Maria Mason, a daughter of John Mason, of Virginia, and she was known in her girlhood as "beautiful Nannie Mason." After she married Lieutenant Sidney Smith Lee, the couple made

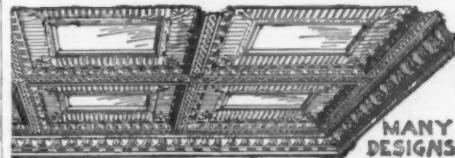
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their home in Washington. When President Buchanan gave a state dinner to the Prince of Wales, Mrs. Lee was one of the guests, and went in on the arm of the Duke of Newcastle. After the war the family lived on their Virginia place, and Fitzhugh followed the plow with his two mules, John the Baptist and Rebecca at the Well. Mrs. Lee has been totally blind for some years, but is still cheerful and happy.

F. W. RAMSDEN, the British Consul at Santiago de Cuba, who asked to have an English war-ship sent there from Jamaica, is the same man who in 1873 let the world know of the massacre of a portion of the crew of the *Virginia*, and helped thus to save the remainder.

A PHILADELPHIA exchange tells this story of the late President William H. Allen, of Girard College. On one occasion a business matter called Mr. Allen to a small town in the central part of the State. While sitting in the parlor of the country hotel in the evening, after transacting his business, he was taken in hand by the wife of the proprietor, who was extremely inquisitive and wanted to know all about his private affairs. Mr. Allen took it all in good part, and for a time was rather amused. Finally she asked: "Have you got much of a family?" "Oh, yes," said he, and he smiled as his mind reverted to his hundreds of pupils. "How many children?" she persisted. "Well," said Mr. Allen, with great earnestness. "I have five hundred, and all boys!" The good old lady was speechless for a moment. Then she arose, and hurrying to the door, called to her husband: "O John! Come in here. We've got Brigham Young stoppin' with us!"

GEN. SIR HERBERT KITCHENER, whose brilliant campaign in Egypt has attracted the admiring attention of the world to him, is a typical British officer, and of the very best type at that. He has not attained fame at a leap, after the fashion supposed to be easy for military genius, but has marched slowly and steadily toward it over a route not less difficult than long. Beginning as an officer in the engineer corps, it took him twelve years to reach the grade of captain, and this he won, thanks to a reputation for industry rather than for brilliance. Soon acquiring an unusual knowledge of native languages and character, the young officer rose step by step in the service, and when WOLSELEY advanced on Dongola, fourteen years ago, he was sent ahead of the army to deal with disloyal officials and to win over the chiefs who were wavering between fear of the foreign regenerators and desire for the sort of liberty promised to the Mahdi's followers. Since attaining to the position of Sirdar General Kitchener has continued to manifest the qualities by which he rose. His reckless courage in battle has hardly been noticed, so much less important is it than his executive intelligence and his endless perseverance in the face of obstacles apparently insuperable. "His Sudan campaign," says the London correspondent of the *New York Times*, "has been a marvel of great accomplishment with small resources and at small expense."

SIR THOMAS LIPTON, to whom the attention of the world was drawn a year ago by his munificent gift of \$125,000 to the Princess of Wales' "poor dinner," has made what the London *Graphic* calls "the most stupendous move in the business world ever made by one man."

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capital of the new company. One third of the issue of each class of shares and of the debenture stock was taken by the vendor in part payment of the purchase money, and, in addition, £88,333 debenture stock and 166,000 preference shares and 166,000 ordinary shares had been applied for by the directors, employees, and friends, and will be allotted according to the terms of the prospectus. The rest of the capital was offered to the public for subscription. The response to the offer was made in no uncertain language. It is estimated that at least 200,000 different applications were made for shares, that considerably over £40,000,000 had been subscribed. In Glasgow alone, the total issue is applied for twice over. The subscriptions must have occasioned an enormous displacement of capital, for some £5,000,000 must have changed hands in the form of deposits on application.

"The scenes are extraordinary, and even exciting. The manager of the National Bank of Scotland was obliged to engage some hundred additional clerks to enable him to cope with the rush of work, and these men were kept at work nearly all night on both days. The company seems to have appealed to all sorts and conditions of men. In the crowd of anxious would-be shareholders might be seen rich and poor, here prosperous business men, there a girl in a cap and apron from a restaurant, here a comfortable matron clad in rich fur, and there a poor widow in rusty black, anxious to invest her mite.

Current Events.

Monday, May 9.

The President nominates Charles H. Allen, of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy. . . . The 13th Regiment, New York National Guard, is disbanded for disobedience of orders. . . . Wheat sells on the New York produce exchange at \$1.90. . . . The battleship *Oregon* arrives at Bahia, Brazil. . . . Congress—In response to a message from the President both houses adopt resolutions of thanks to Commodore Dewey and his men. The bill is also passed authorizing the President to appoint him Rear-Admiral. . . . Senate

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—A bill is passed authorizing the Postmaster-General to establish **post-offices at military posts and camps**. . . . The amendment to the post-office appropriation bill to reduce the **compensation of railroads for carrying the mails 20 per cent.** is defeated. House: A bill authorizing the enlistment of **yellow-fever immunes** is passed.

The resignations of the **Spanish ministers** are placed in the hands of Premier Sagasta. . . . Rioting still continues throughout Spain, **marital law** having been proclaimed at Seville and Saragossa.

Tuesday, May 10.

The regulars and volunteers intended for the **invasion of Cuba** are ordered to the Gulf coast. . . . Twenty-seven merchant vessels are chartered for **transports**. . . . Congress—Senate: The **post-office appropriation bill**, for war measures, and a resolution favoring **changing of Inauguration Day** to May 4, are passed. The nomination of Charles H. Allen as Assistant Secretary of the Navy is confirmed.

Riots are increasing in Spain. . . . **Massacres** by the insurgents around Manila are reported. . . . **Riots occur in different parts of Italy**, partly due to the rise in the price of bread, and partly, it is supposed, in accordance with the plan of **revolution**, which broke out prematurely. . . . Japan and Russia sign a protocol recognizing the sovereignty and **independence of Korea**.

Wednesday, May 11.

Preparations are completed to send to Manila from San Francisco **15,000 men** under command of General Wesley Merritt, who has been selected as military governor of the Philippines. . . . Lieutenant Peary's Arctic vessel, the **Windward** arrives at New York, fifty-two days out from London. . . . Congress—Senate: The **labor arbitration bill** is discussed. . . . **Dewey's nomination** to be a Rear-Admiral is confirmed. House—A resolution favoring the **election of senators** by popular vote is adopted.

The **riots in Italian cities**, notably Milan, Naples, Florence, and Como, increase. **Marital law** is proclaimed in these cities, and the

military kill and wound many of the mob in suppressing them. . . . General Aguinaldo, the Philippine rebel chief, is reported to have issued a proclamation directing the **insurgents to obey the orders of Admiral Dewey**. . . . A Spanish **torpedo-boat destroyer** is reported blown up near Gibraltar.

Thursday, May 12.

Admiral Dewey reports the destruction of another Spanish war-ship, and declares that he is maintaining a strict **blockade at Manila**. . . . **Fire destroys a grain elevator** in Chicago containing a million bushels. . . . Admiral Sampson's fleet **bombards San Juan**, the capital of Porto Rico, at sunrise. . . . The fortifications make only a feeble resistance, and are soon silenced. . . . In an **engagement at Cardenas** between the gunboat **Wilmington**, the revenue cutter **Hudson**, the torpedo-boat **Winslow**, and Spanish gunboats and shore batteries, **five of the Winslow's crew are killed** and three injured, and the boat disabled. . . . It is reported that the American gunboat **Concord** has **destroyed a Spanish war-ship** off Iloilo in the Philippines. . . . George Downing, the man arrested on suspicion of being a **Spanish spy**, commits suicide. . . . Nearly two hundred families are rendered homeless by **floods in the Arkansas River valley**, Indian Territory. Congress—Senate: The **labor arbitration bill** is passed. . . . The war revenue bill is reported from the finance committee. House: The committee on foreign affairs agrees to the Newlands resolution for the immediate **annexation of the Hawaiian Islands**.

Spaniards report that four American war-ships attacked **Cienfuegos** and were repulsed. . . . It is reported in London that another scheme for **European intervention** is on foot. . . . Germany and Austria, without issuing official proclamations, declare that they **will be neutral**. . . . Four members of the **Spanish cabinet resign**: Señor Moret, Secretary of the colonies; Señor Gullón, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Admiral Bermejo, Minister of Marine, and Count Xiquena, Minister of Public Works.

Friday, May 13.

Admiral Sampson's report of the **bombardment of San Juan** is received at the Navy Department. The Spanish fortifications are completely reduced; two Americans are killed and seven wounded. . . . Sampson leaves Porto Rico supposedly to meet the **Spanish Cape Verde fleet**, which has at last been located at Martinique, French West Indies. . . . Commodore Schley's **flying squadron leaves New York** under sealed orders. . . . The **invasion of Cuba** is deferred until the Spanish fleet has been disposed of. . . . A New York attorney has gone to Key West to institute **prize court proceedings** to recover from the Government for the Spanish vessels and their cargoes, captured by American war-ships.

Sagasta is having much difficulty in forming a **new Spanish ministry**. . . . The universities of Naples, Bologna, and Rome are **closed** owing to demonstrations by the students. . . . Queen Victoria accepts the **resignation of the Earl of Aberdeen** as Governor-General of Canada. . . . Joseph Chamberlain, British Colonial Secretary, makes a speech at Birmingham which is regarded as the frankest plea for an Anglo-American alliance yet uttered.

Saturday, May 14.

The American consulate at Curacao, Dutch West Indies, reports sighting the **Spanish fleet** steaming westward. . . . Admiral Sampson's **squadron** reaches the north coast of San Domingo. . . . Senator **Sewall**, of New Jersey, declines the commission of major-general of volunteers, preferring to retain his seat in the Senate. . . . The President approves the **Alaska Homestead and Right-of-way bill**.

All the **Spanish cabinet** has resigned. . . . There is less rioting throughout Spain.

Sunday, May 15.

Another cable dispatch is received from **Admiral Dewey**, via Hongkong, stating that he is still master of Manila, and reporting the capture of another Spanish gunboat, the **Callao**. Commodore Schley's **flying squadron** reaches Charleston. . . . **Edouard Remenyi**, the Hungarian violinist, dies at San Francisco.

The **Spanish fleet** is still at Curacao. . . . Fishermen captured off the Cuban coast say that most of the **reconcentrados** have died.

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